

Clapping Along Together

Primary Objectives

2a. Forms relationships with adults

Why It's Important

Young children are interested in the rhythms and patterns of speech and music, and they can respond to simple gestures. Clapping to a song helps draw your child's attention to the sounds and rhythm of language and engages her with a familiar adult.

Materials

None

What You Do

1. Sit with your child facing you on your lap or on the floor.
2. Sing the following song to the tune of "Where Is Thumbkin?" as you clap to the rhythm:
[Child's name] is clapping, [child's name] is clapping, clap, clap, clap; clap, clap, clap.
3. Repeat the song, and encourage your child to clap along.
4. If your child is not used to clapping, you may need to place your hands over her and clap together as you sing.
5. Continue the song for as long as your child is interested.
6. You can use the song at different times of the day by changing the lyrics. *[Child's name] is getting her diaper changed. Changed, changed, changed; changed, changed, changed.*