

Sing! Sing! Sing!

Children love to sing and hear music and songs are one of the best ways for children to learn language. The following are some songs you may have sung as a child that you can pass along to your children. You will be surprised at how many you remember!

Once your children are familiar with the tune, let them have fun substituting words to make a new song.

A Tisket, A Tasket
 All the Pretty Little Horses
 Bought Me A Cat (the cat pleased me)
 Bingo
 Did You Ever See A Lassie
 Eency, Weency Spider
 The Farmer in the Dell
 Hickory, Dickory Dock
 The Hokey Pokey
 Hush Little Baby (don't say a word, papa's ...)
 Rockaby Baby (in the treetops, when the wind...)
 If You're Happy and You Know It
 Looby Loo
 Mary Had A Little Lamb
 Muffin Man
 Mulberry Bush
 Oats, Peas, Beans, and Barley Grow
 Oh! Dear! What Can the Matter Be?
 Oh, Where Has My Little Dog Gone
 Old John the Rabbit
 Old MacDonald
 Polly Wolly Doodle
 Pop! Goes the Weasel
 Ring Around the Rosies
 Row, Row, Row Your Boat
 She'll be Comin' Round the Mountain
 Take Me Out to the Ballgame
 There's a Hole in the Bucket
 This Little Light of Mine
 This Old Man
 Three Blind Mice
 Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star
 The Wheels on the Bus

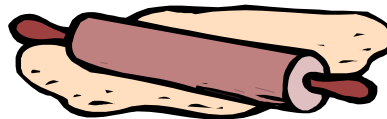
Visit www.kididdles.com for a complete list of lyrics

Play dough

Store bought play dough is expensive. This is a great recipe you can make at home for less than a dollar and lasts weeks outside of the refrigerator. You can add food coloring, kool-aid packets, baking fragrances, cornmeal, sand, decaf instant coffee grounds (use your imagination and what you already have on-hand) to increase the sensory experience. Bury small objects in the dough to encourage your child press and pull the dough to find the object.

2 cups flour
 1 cup salt
 2 Tablespoons oil
 1 tsp cream of tartar
 2 cups of water (mix food coloring in)

Cook over medium heat until dough pulls away from the side of the pan.



Painting With Water

Not only is this a great activity for increasing pre-writing skills and strength and endurance in the arms, it is fun and free!

Get a bucket of water (be sure to supervise well to prevent drowning) and a 4-6" paintbrush. Let your child paint outside....the side of the house, the lawn chairs, rocks, wooden blocks, etc. The water darkens the look of the object painted and then dries away.

Another adaptation of this idea is getting a bucket of water and a sponge. Wringing the sponge out increases strength in the hands needed for writing.

