

Sharing songs and rhymes with your child

Why do I share songs and rhymes with my child?

Babies and young children love the sound of your voice and the comfort of hearing something familiar.

They also enjoy the rhythm and repetition in songs and rhymes.

Sharing songs and rhymes can play an important part in your child's listening and language development.

You'll have lots of fun together.

Where and when can I share songs and rhymes with my child?

Songs and rhymes can be shared any time of the day. You might both enjoy songs at bath time, or when changing your baby's nappy.

You can go along to Bookbug at your local library, or PEEP groups that run in your local community.

At first you might suggest songs and rhymes for your child. Your child will soon be able to let you know when they want to sing with you by using a sound or action from a favourite song.



How do I share songs and rhymes with my child?

You can use actions when you sing to your child. Sometimes toys or books can link with a favourite song too.

Sit face to face with your child so you can see how they react to the rhyme or song.

When your child joins in, show you have noticed by giving lots of encouragement.

You can change the words of a song or rhyme to whatever you want. Sometimes adding familiar names to a song can be fun.

What songs and rhymes can I share with my child?

Use songs that you enjoy. Maybe something you have heard on the radio. If you enjoy it, your child will too.

You may remember some action songs and nursery rhymes from when you were young.

You can look online for popular nursery rhymes and songs www.wordsforlife.org.uk and www.scottishbooktrust.com/songs-and-rhymes

You can visit your local library and borrow CDs and books with rhymes.