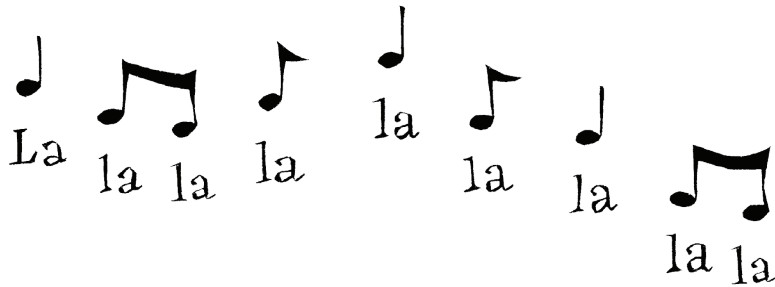




How to Decorate for Your “Sing”-Along Story Hour

Children of all ages love music, so decorating for your “Sing”-Along Story Hour should be musical and fun! Here are some simple hints and tips for making the room sing.

- ❖ Using multicolored construction paper, cut out musical notes and hang them around the room
- ❖ Print or write inspiring lines from *Sing*, including:
 - * Sing!
 - * Sing out loud!
 - * Sing out strong!
 - * La-la-la
- ❖ Use a permanent marker to draw musical notes on a simple white table cover



Crafting Fun: Make Your Own Instruments!

Make these instruments ahead of time or as a group activity for some extra fun! These shaker cans are simple, cheap, and easy to play!

WHAT YOU NEED:

- ❖ Uncooked rice or dried beans
- ❖ One empty, clean soda can for every child
- ❖ Clear packing tape
- ❖ Paper
- ❖ Scissors
- ❖ Markers or stickers

HOW TO MAKE THEM:

1. Put three tablespoons of rice in each can
2. Remove the tab and seal the opening with clear packing tape
3. Decorate! To make a label, cut a piece of paper nine inches long and four and one-half inches wide
4. Tape one side of the label to the can. Then make small rolls of tape and stick them between the label and the can. Wrap the label around the can so that the loose end overlaps the taped end, and tape down the loose end



Musical Games for Little Ones

There are many wonderful and simple games centered on music. Pick one or two of the ideas below to get kids singing and dancing! You can even use the CD included with *Sing* to play!

WHAT YOU NEED FOR ALL THE GAMES:

- ❖ Music, of course, and something to play it on! Use the *Sing* CD for three great, kid-friendly songs

TIPS & TRICKS:

- ❖ Have a set activity for games where kids are out, like the *Sing* coloring pages
- ❖ Encourage everyone to sing out loud as they play!

MUSICAL CHAIRS

WHAT YOU NEED:

- ❖ Chairs for all but one of the children playing

HOW TO PLAY:

- ❖ Arrange the chairs in a circle, facing outwards
- ❖ When the music starts, the kids should all walk in one direction around the circle
- ❖ Pause the music and instruct the kids to find a chair as quickly as they can!
- ❖ Whoever does not have a chair is out
- ❖ Every time someone is out, remove another chair and begin again
- ❖ The last one sitting is the winner!

FREEZE DANCE

WHAT YOU NEED:

- ❖ A large space with enough room for everyone to dance

HOW TO PLAY:

- ❖ Start the music and instruct kids to dance—as silly as they want!
- ❖ When the music stops, tell everyone to freeze in a specific position. You can be as simple or creative as you like. For example, everyone can freeze like a bird!
- ❖ To make the game more interactive, if someone moves, they should make a sound or a gesture like the object or animal they were supposed to freeze as





Singing a Round

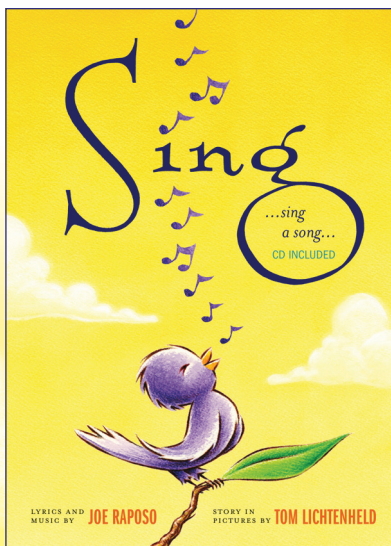
This activity is slightly more advanced, but wonderful for kids who love to sing!

WHAT'S A ROUND?

A round is fun way for a group to sing one song in different parts. One person or group begins the song, a second group joins in partway through, and then a third and so on. It's a fun way to introduce harmony to children! "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" is one of the most popular examples of songs commonly sung in rounds.

HOW TO PLAY:

- ❖ Have the kids listen to the full version of the song you are going to sing, from beginning to end. Point out where each start begins. (If you're using *Sing*, the line "sing of good things, not bad" is a great place for the second group to come in)
- ❖ Distribute copies of the lyric sheet or sing the song several times in unison until everyone knows the words
- ❖ Divide the group into smaller teams and pick a cue for when their part begins
- ❖ Have the first group sing the entire song two times through; point out to the other groups where they should come in
- ❖ During the second time the song is playing, help the second-part students jump in on cue



Sing

By Joe Raposo

Illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld

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