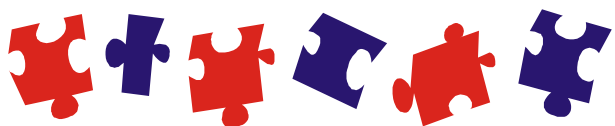
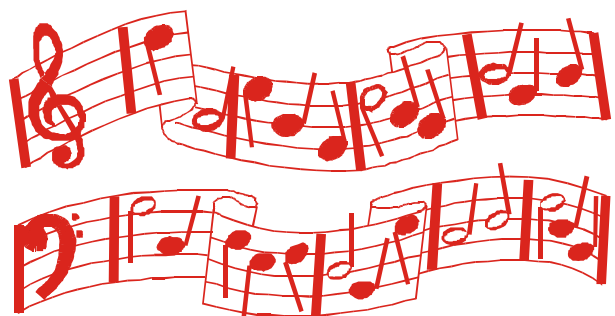


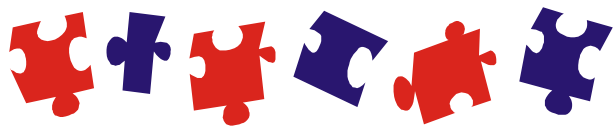
WHAT IS MY PRESCHOOLER LEARNING FROM **MUSIC?**



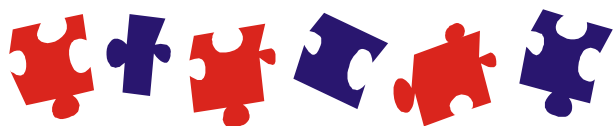
Young children love sound! They enjoy making sounds and hearing them. We include music in the program because it builds an appreciation of this art form, and serves as a way to help with listening, language, and coordination skills. Music can also be soothing and comforting to young children. (Remember how babies love lullabies!) We use some music regularly to signal a transition from one activity to another.



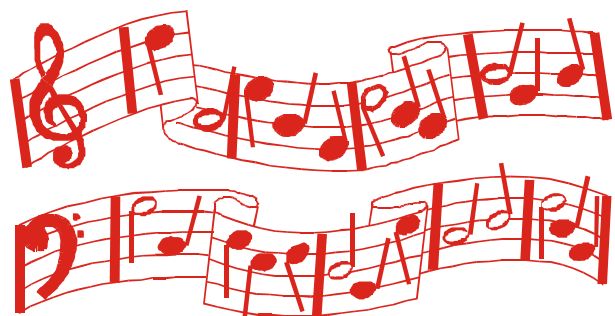
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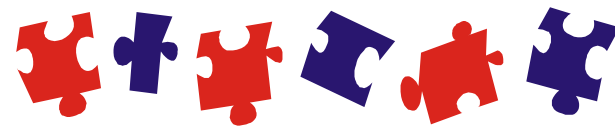
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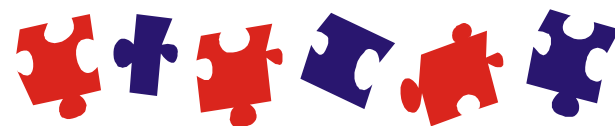
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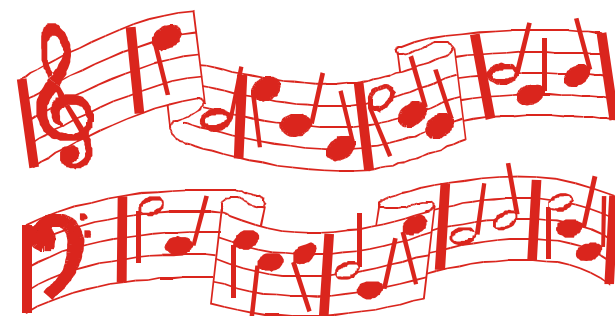
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We play with musical instruments because it allows children to explore cause and effect (“If I press the keys, they make a sound.”). It also helps

them to focus on the difference in sound (“These keys have a deeper sound than those.”). Sometimes we invite guests to visit with their instrument, play it, and explain it to the children.

We use finger plays (songs with accompanying finger movements) to enhance finger control, which they need for writing and handling small objects.

Music can help children to feel and learn about emotions. We might listen to classical music and talk about how it sounds scary, sad, or happy. We might listen to cultural rhythms and talk about how they help people feel a sense of community.

Learning the lyrics to songs is a particularly effective way to enhance language. Have you noticed how you can remember the words to old favorites? Children’s brains, like yours, retain poetry better when it is used lyrically.

Music and dance are fun and help children be playful with their friends and teachers. If you have music favorites at home, let us know and we’ll share them with all the children!

Released by Don Bower,
Extension Human Development Specialist
Developed under contract by Linda J. Grant

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Leaflet CHFD-E 25-10

July, 1999

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