



Kids Music Company
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Music for Fun Music for Life

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Presented by Heather Monro

Music and movement activities:

- **Build relationships with others**

Active involvement in music activities builds a positive classroom culture and fosters caring and sharing as children create music together. In a music circle there are no children at the front or the back, there are no winners and losers. There is cohesion, not competition. Music is a performance art and therefore requires the participation of others to complete the experience, whether they are co-performers and musicians, or audience.

Musical activities develop opportunities for sharing as we create sounds or shapes with our bodies, and listen or look to the ideas of others. The musical experience is richer for the sharing of ideas.

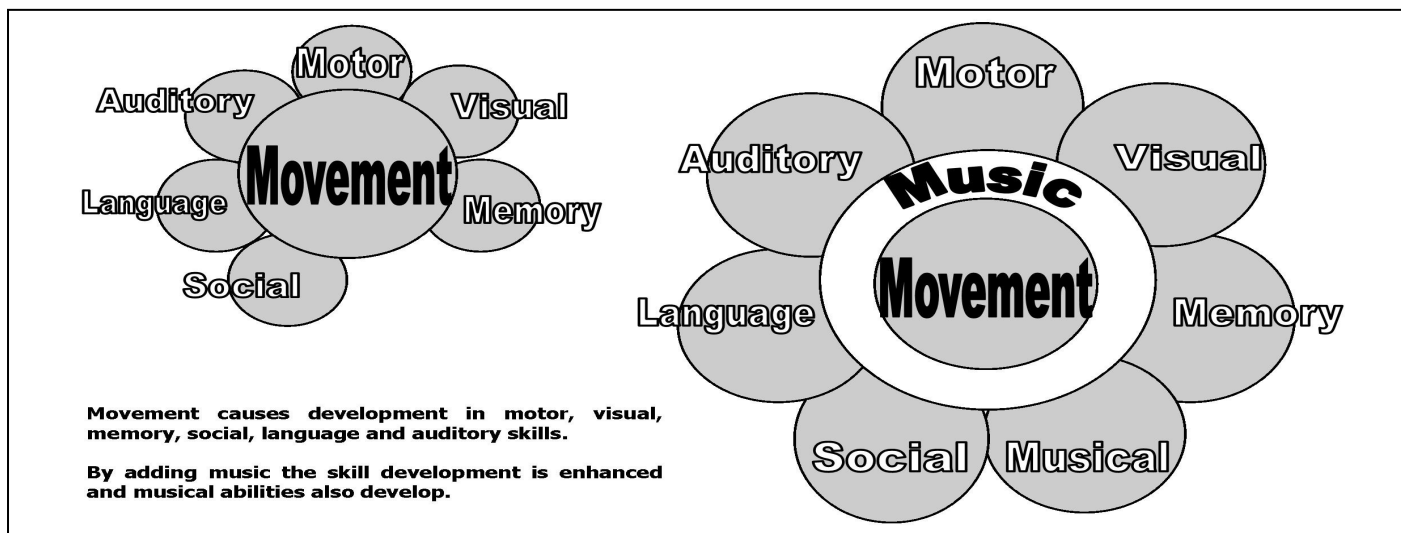
- **Help with language development**

Many KMC songs are didactic. That is they illustrate the words through the actions and movements. Through practical experience children begin to understand the words they are singing or hearing. For example, while singing “See me go in, in, in. See me go out, out, out” they are involved in the illustration of those lyrics by moving in towards the centre of the circle and out again. Children learn through practical experience and when experience and language come together children gain understanding.

- **Promote Active Learning.**

By engaging sight, balance, hearing, vocalization, movement, and touch in a fun learning environment children are feeding enormous amounts of stimulation to the brain. The brain must process all this information simultaneously and in doing that builds thousands of connections across the brain sections. This multisensory learning promotes brain growth. Plus while children are happy and successful in the fun activities they are building self confidence and a positive self esteem, all through being actively involved in the learning.

The Development of the Whole Child





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So Where Do We Start?

How Do Children Learn?

- Children Learn by **Doing**
- Children Learn Through **Imitation**
- Children Learn When Having **Fun**
- Children Learn When **Multiple Senses** Are Involved
- Children Learn when **Both Sides of the brain** are engaged in the learning

NOTE: Movement and Activities Use All The Above

Essential Lifeskill Areas

Physical Development:

- **Body Awareness**
Specifically songs which name body parts. These develop the child's understanding of what his body consists of and how the parts fit together.
- **Vestibular Stimulation**
Specifically songs which involve turning, tilting or up and down movement. These help develop balance.
- **Muscle Strength**
Specifically songs for large muscle groups including upper body strength. This is important for fine motor development and core strength.
- **Muscle Coordination**
Combining actions. Muscles coordinate together to create body movements.
- **Reaction Training**
Reacting to specific changes in the music, including stops.
- **Crossing the Mid-line**
Songs which encourage body parts to cross the 3 mid-lines in the body: top to bottom, front to back and side to side.
- **Space Perception**
Songs which use a three dimensional space. A child learns about how and if his body fits in a space.



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- **Specifically Eye Fitness**

Almost all of these songs involving movement develop peripheral vision, convergence and depth of focus. The songs in this section of the following grid have a specific eye tracking purpose.

- **Fine Motor Coordination**

Hand and finger actions which develop muscles in the fingers.

- **Singing and Specifically Vocalizing**

Apart from the songs that involve lyrics which children will sing, these specific songs have echo phrases or opportunities for vocal exploration, e.g. vocal slides.

Thinking:

- **Social Interaction**

These specific songs require another person in order for the child to be involved in the song. They won't work with only one person.

- **Concentration and Focused Listening**

Apart from the lullabies which encourage relaxation, all the other songs encourage the child to be mentally involved to react to lyrics, or changes, for example, in tempo or instrumentation.

- **Seriation and Memory**

Understanding and memorising a sequence.

- **Creative Thinking**

These songs have opportunities for children to add their own ideas; for example by creating pathways in movement, in creating rhythms, or finding places on the body to carry out the set action, making original shapes with the body or creating new characters to fit the song .

Understanding:

- **Language**
 - **Specific**

These songs have a specific language focus

- **Language**
 - **General**

Children absorb the lyrics of these songs through participation in the activities

All these skills are essential for a child to function in society and will help them to have an active and fulfilling life.



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Song Title	Resource	Body Awareness	Vestibular Stimulation	Gross Motor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muscle Strength • Muscle Co-ordination • Reaction Training 	Cross the Midline	Space Perception	Eye Fitness	Fine Motor Co-ordination	Creative Thinking	Social Skills	Concentration	Listening	Seriation and Memory	Singing	Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific • General
1. Hey Give Me Five Partner greeting song with turns. Creative extensions	Wriggle & Jiggle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Jump out of Bed Memory Development Morning routines.	Splish Splash Splosh	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. Around together Partner song - children do actions together and move around the room together	Echo Fred	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. Swing Thing Teaches children left and right, develops independent lateral movement	Swing Thing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		✓
5. Cool Cats Children lead the actions in a small group. Creative thinking.	Pukeko Stomp	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6. Good Manners Partner song – clapping & patting together : co- operation needed	Splish Splash Splosh	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
7. Marching on a Monday Memory & language development with 7 different actions.	Wriggle & Jiggle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8. Connections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner dance • Developing pathways and locomotor movement • Improvising with body percussion, non-melodic and melodic percussion. 	Jump, Jive & Improve	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9. Shaker song <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positional language high, low, tap hip, tap knee • Dynamics Fast, slow, loud, soft 	Jump, Jive & Improve	✓		✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10. Fitness Rap A fun way to keep fit and healthy	Echo Fred	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



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11. Look This Way Having good space perception can be life saving. This song teaches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills to cross the road • Moving to various beats. 	Echo Fred	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12. Shape Blues Learn different shapes while having fun: Triangle, circle, hexagon, square	Swing Thing			✓		✓					✓	✓			✓
13. Parachute Journey Positional language – up, down Space perception, keeping a circle shape while turning on a horizontal plane, moving to the beat. Team work	Splish Splash Splosh		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14. Draw a Squiggle Tactile sensory input. Social skills required	Wriggle & Jiggle	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
15. Lycra Song Positional language. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under/On • In/out • Side to side/up & down Fun work out.	Pukeko Stomp		✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

Have Fun!
 - and enjoy the music