SPEECH





Domain and goal

Sings songs with prosody and rhythm

Includes some known performatives and words while singing

Activities

Review all songs

Your child has been listening to numerous songs over the past four months and should be attempting to sing along with you. When he sings songs with you, listen carefully to see if you can hear the correct rhythm for each song as well as a matching tune. He should also be using any known words or performatives in the song as he is singing, especially the final word in each line or song.

Critical listening

It is easy to give a child too much credit for their productions when we know what they are trying to say or sing. It is important to be unbiased when listening to your child's productions and the easiest way to do this is to listen blindly. In other words, have your child choose songs to sing without you knowing what he is singing. If you can recognise it, then he is probably approximating the song fairly well. However, if he gestures or does actions while he sings, this may give you clues to the song rather than his actual singing. Another option is to have a less familiar person listen to your child singing. Can they identify the song? This is a good way for you to get a sense of how easily others understand your child.

Activity:

Put song cards on the floor under boxes or cushions. Model for your child by looking under one of the boxes/cushions, looking at the song card, singing the song and then finding that song page in your child's *Sound Book*. Tell your child to choose a box/cushion and sing the song for you. Turn your back so he can't show you the picture. Tell him you are listening and ready to find the same song in the *Sound Book*. Note how many of the songs he could sing well enough for you and others to recognise.

What did your child do?

