



# Song Cube

## Episode 48

### Introduction

Singing songs and reciting rhymes help children recognize and work with sounds in spoken language, building their phonological awareness. We are able to hear the smaller sounds in words when singing because there is a distinct note for each syllable. This practice will help children sound out words when they learn to read. Recognizing rhythm and rhymes helps children anticipate what will come next, which helps prepare them to make predictions when reading.



Here is a fun activity you can do with your little one to get them singing and moving to the rhythm! Help them learn to listen for and keep a steady beat.

### Supplies

- 2 cube-shaped tissue boxes
- Light-weight cardboard
- Scissors
- Template
- Crafts sticks
- Egg shakers
- Newspaper (optional)
- Construction paper
- Packing tape

### Instructions

1. (Optional) Fill the tissue box with crumpled newspaper: The newspaper will help support the side of the box and make it sturdier.
2. Cut a piece of light-weight cardboard the same dimensions as the side with the opening on the tissue box: You can use an old cereal box.

### Additional Resources

Visit Plano Public Library's official [YouTube channel](#) to view this activity and other Library Make videos

Check out our blog post about this activity at [Plano Library Learns](#)

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### Instructions, continued

3. Wrap the tissue box using construction paper and tape.
4. Cut out song cards from template and glue one card on each side of the box.
5. Repeat steps 1-3 for the second tissue box.
6. Cut out movement cards from template and glue a card on each side of the second box.
7. Cover each side of the box with packing tape. This will "lamininate" the entire box, making it more durable.

### How to Use Your Song Cube

Toss both cubes to see which song and movement will go together. Sing the song and demonstrate the beat according to what was rolled. Sing the song slow at first to help your child discover the beat. Adjust the tempo of the song as your child gets used to the movements and the rhythm. You can speed up or slow down the song to make the activity more interactive.



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**Clapping  
Hands**

**Tapping  
on Legs**

**Egg  
Shakers**

**Stomping  
Your Feet**

**Tapping  
Sticks**

**Dancing**



**Wheels  
on the Bus**

**London  
Bridge**

**Head and  
Shoulders**

**Itsy Bitsy  
Spider**

**Twinkle,  
Twinkle**

**Row your  
Boat**



### **Wheels on the Bus**

The wheels on the bus go  
Round and round  
Round and round, round and round  
The wheels on the bus go  
Round and round  
All through the town

The wipers on the bus go  
Swish, swish, swish  
Swish, swish, swish, swish, swish, swish  
The wipers on the bus go  
Swish, swish, swish  
All through the town

### **Head and Shoulders**

Head and shoulders, knees and toes  
Knees and toes, knees and toes  
Head and shoulders, knees and toes  
Eyes, ears, mouth and noes

### **Twinkle, Twinkle**

Twinkle, twinkle, little star  
How I wonder what you are  
Up above the world so high  
Like a diamond in the sky  
Twinkle, twinkle little star  
How I wonder what you are

### **London Bridge**

London Bridge is falling down  
Falling down, falling down  
London Bridge is falling down  
My sweet baby

So come and take a walk around,  
Walk around, walk around  
Come and take a walk around  
My sweet baby

### **Itsy Bitsy Spider**

The itsy bitsy spider  
climbed up the water spout  
Down came the rain  
and washed the spider out  
Out came the sun  
and dried up all the rain  
And the itsy bitsy spider  
climbed up the spout again

### **Row your Boat**

Row, row, row your boat  
Gently down the stream  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily  
Life is but a dream