Music is present almost everywhere we go. In fact, musical sounds may be as prominent as the sounds of language in our daily lives.

**Science Says**

- The brain learns musical information very early in development. Infants learn from listening to music in their environment and culture.
- Research suggests that infants have a sensitive period when their brains are particularly primed to learn the basic structure of musical components.
- Music and language share some key elements, such as pattern and rhythm. Practice with musical patterns and rhythms may help young children learn language patterns and rhythms.

**Try it at Home**

- Enjoy music with your child! It’s fun and can build skills, too. Any type of music is great – share your favorite music with your child!
- Singing and clapping, moving, and dancing are all great ways to share music with children. Bounce your child to the beat!
- Anything can be a musical instrument. Plastic tubs make great drums. Paper towel tubes filled with beans can shake, shake, shake!

**The Take-Home**

Music has rhythm and so does language. Research shows that listening and moving in time to music may help infants learn to recognize rhythm patterns in language.

Want to Learn More?

http://modules.ilabs.uw.edu/module/early-music-experience/

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