

Action Song: sing to the tune Row your Boat

For babies on a knee:

'bounce bounce bounce with me bouncing on my knee, wiggle your hips wiggle you hips now STOP and freeze like me.'

On 'wiggle your hips' change from bouncing up and down to a side to side motion

For younger pupils:

'stamp stamp stamp your feet stamp your feet with me, wiggle your hips wiggle your hips now STOP and freeze like me.' Change stamp to another action eg clap your hands, nod your head.

Older pupils:

'stamp stamp stamp your feet now clap your hands with me, Wiggle your hips wiggle your hips now STOP and freeze like me'. This time change the action for feet and hands.

Shakers song:

Sing to the tune of Row Your Boat:

*Shake, shake, shake your shaker,  
shake it just like me,  
Shake it **loud**, shake it **loud**  
Shake it just like me.*

Change how you play your shaker-quiet, fast, high etc. the children will come up with some original ideas I'm sure.

You can change the instruments too!

Tap tap tap your sticks...

Tap tap tap your bricks...

Bang bang bang your drum...

Teddy Song:

Try hugging a favourite teddy and singing these new lyrics:

Hug hug hug your bear  
Squeeze him very tight  
Hold him high, make him fly,  
Then hug with all your might

Scrunchie/parachute/hoops

Using one of these props with adults and children holding on while singing Row your Boat will again reinforce the sense of beat. Try singing at different speeds (tempo).

Try this chant (speaking voice) as well:

*'3 times round went our gallant ship and 3 times round went she, 3 times round went our gallant ship and she sank to the bottom of the sea wheeeee!*

*Under the water under the sea up jumps my ship and up jumps me!*

Change the word 'gallant' to another word to describe the ship

Teddies

Row your boat is a brilliant song for keeping a steady beat. Put a small teddy into an upside-down drum or a similar container (eg old ice cream box) an adult holds one side and the child holds the other and row the boat forward and backward in time to the beat whilst singing the song. Try singing and moving slow, medium and fast!

EY musical activities all about

## Row your Boat

Get In Your Boat activities

Listen to "Storm" by Rossini, which can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JcRuChk7Exo>. Use a parachute, lycra or a large piece of fabric. Talk about stormy and calm weather using pictures if they are available.

As you listen ripple the fabric as if it were a calm sea, change the movement to a rough and stormy sea. The music starts and ends with calmly and quietly but watch out for the loud and exciting storm in the middle!

Music to Listen to:

*Aquarium from Carnival of the Animals  
by Saint Saens*

**Raindrop by Chopin**

*The Trout by Schubert*

Available free if you sign up to [abrsm.org/classical100](http://abrsm.org/classical100)

If you have access to the internet, then Sadler's Wells Theatre have produced some movement videos for children aged 2-6. Try '*Family Dance Workshop for kids aged 2-6: Rhythm.*'

The Big Ship Sails on the Ally Ally Oh

This song encourages joining in with actions and moving to the beat. Find it on the BBC school Radio site:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-a-to-z-index/z4ddgwx>

March around the room following a leader for verse 1. During verse 2, all stand still and wag your finger in time to the beat. During verse 3 gradually sink to the bottom of the sea and lie down on the floor. Jump up! Ready to do it all again

Sounds and instruments Careful listening and new words. Using a tray of water make some sounds for the children to listen to, splashing, pouring, dripping etc. Take turns to make sounds, how many can they make? Can they think of words to describe their watery sounds? Sing these words to the tune of Frere Jacques as you explore:

*'I hear dripping, I hear dripping,  
(splashing, sloshing, rippling etc) Hark don't you? Hark don't you? Dripping water in the bowl, dripping water in the bowl, Can you do it too? can you can do it too?'*

Chants

*Swing me over the ocean*

*Swing me over the sea*

*Swing me over the garden wall and swing me home for tea!*

You could even make a piece of fabric into a little hammock, put a little teddy in and swing away!

Rainbows

Sing these words to the tune of Row your Boat and pass a picture of a rainbow around the circle:

*'Red red red and orange,*

*yellow green and blue,*

*indigo and violet a rainbow shines on you.'*

Whoever is holding the rainbow on the word 'you' points to one of the colours in the picture and names it (younger) or names something that could be treasure found at the end of the rainbow (older).

Fabric/ribbons

Try singing these words by Sue Nicholls to the tune of Row your Boat swaying your fabric and letting it float down at the end.

*'Kites climb in the sky*

*Rise into the blue*

*Breezes stopping kites are dropping*

*Fluttering down to you.'*

Song with actions, all about different kinds of boats (Use the tune of One Finger One Thumb)

*'We're going on a journey (X3)*

*We're going out to sea.'* Ask: "How shall we travel?"

Change each verse using the children's ideas eg '*We're rowing in a rowing boat (X3) We're going out to sea.'*

Or we're diving in a submarine We're Sailing in a yacht We're paddling in a steamer Changing the speed of the boats on the sea and have some fast, medium and slow verse