

Familiar Melodies to “Sing” Instructions to Young Children

Just remember to:

- **Make it simple**
 - **Make it repetitive**
 - **Use it every time you do the routine**
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- **Allouette** (“Put your shoes on, time to put your shoes on. Put your shoes on, then we have to go.”)
 - **Are You Sleeping** (“Let’s be gentle, let’s be gentle, gentle hands, touching very softly, touching very softly, that’s so nice.”)
 - **Did You Ever See a Lassie** (“This way/ that way” could apply to different locations, ex. “Did you ever see ...”)
 - **Farmer and the Dell** (“It’s time to wash our hands, it’s time to wash our hands, we’ll rub, rub, rub until they’re clean, it’s time to wash our hands OR It’s time now to clean up, it’s time now to clean up. Let’s put the toys away, it’s time now to clean up.”)
 - **Goodnight Ladies** (“Goodbye Becky, goodbye John, goodbye Jenny, it’s time to say goodbye.”)
 - **If You’re Happy and You Know It** (“When you want to have some more, say “more”... Now it’s time to say goodbye, say “bye”.)
 - **I’m a Little Teapot** (“We can play with Playdough here we go, squishing and squashing in the dough. We like to play with Playdough, it’s so fun, we’ll pound and push until we’re done.”)
 - **My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean** (“Bring back” substitute simple 2-word phrase to repeat ex. “Sit down, sit down, come sit down on the floor, the floor.”)
 - **London Bridge** (“Jenny is a happy girl, happy girl, happy girl, Jenny is a happy girl, she is smiling.”)
 - **Mulberry Bush** (“This is the way..., Which is the one you want to pick...”)
 - **Pop Goes the Weasel** (“Bubbles, bubbles in the air, we’re blowing lots of bubbles, but when you catch one in your hand- POP! goes the bubble.”)
 - **Row, Row, Row Your Boat** (Play, play, play with me, let’s play with our toy, push the button then you’ll hear, a very funny noise.”)
 - **Other melodies:** Twinkle, Twinkle, Mary Had a Little Lamb, Jingle Bells, Oh My Darling Clementine, Old McDonald, The Muffin Man, The Bear Went Over the Mountain, She’ll Be Coming ‘Round the Mountain, Wheels on the Bus, etc.