

Bookbug Session: #YMusicMatters

We are thrilled to be celebrating 20 years of Creative Scotland's Youth Music Initiative (YMI). With YMI's funding, we have trained thousands of Bookbug Session Leaders and have been able to create hundreds of song and rhyme videos for families and practitioners across Scotland to enjoy!

Join in the celebrations using this Bookbug Session Plan, which highlights all the wonderful music brought to little ones through Bookbug and YMI.

1. Introduction song

[The Hello Song](#)

Benefits

Familiar start – lets everyone know a Bookbug session has started.

Tips

Smile and use names if you know them. Clap or tap along to the beat and use signs if you know them.

2. Transition song

[Eyes, Nose, Cheeky, Cheeky Chin](#)

Benefits

A lovely tactile song which encourages bonding through touch and eye contact.

Tips

This song can be sung or spoken as a rhyme – you decide! Toddlers or pre-schoolers might like to do the actions on their grown-up.

3. Familiar rhyme

[Roon About Moose](#)

Benefits

A fun rhyme which promotes touch and closeness as well as lots of surprise and anticipation. A Scots take on [Round and Round the Garden](#), this rhyme will be familiar but also introduce some simple Scots vocabulary.

Tips

Pair this with Round and Round the Garden as they are very similar, giving opportunities for repetition.

4. Active rhyme

[Five Fat Peas](#)

Benefits

Lots of repeated *f* and *p* sounds which help children with their speech and finger play and helps with fine motor skills. Children love the anticipation at the end of this rhyme!

Tips

Share this rhyme slowly and pronounce each word clearly so that children can 'catch' the words. Build up some anticipation before getting everyone to clap when the pod goes POP at the end!

5. Song with actions

[The Wheels on the Bus](#)

Benefits

A song that grown-ups will remember from when they were wee! Lots of actions to develop motor skills and fun noises which promote speech and language development.

Tips

Let parents know that this song is great to build into your child's day and sing when out and about!

6. Book

[Gruffalo, Where Are You? by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler](#)

Benefits

This introduces children to the much loved character of the Gruffalo and is short enough to keep all children engaged. This book is interactive and encourages children to join in to help find the Gruffalo!

Tips

Encourage families to take out the original Gruffalo book from the library – most have lots of copies of this classic.

7. Active song

[Wind the Bobbin Up](#)

Benefits

Using a familiar song will encourage grown-ups to join in. Pairing up words with movement and actions is perfect for learning vocabulary and the concept of directions. Children will love the big movements!

Tips

Exaggerate the movements – make them big to help children join in and understand the meaning!

8. Lullaby / calming song

[Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star](#)

Benefits

This one needs no introduction! This soothing and familiar song will make babies and children feel safe, secure and loved.

Tips

Encourage parents to get face to face with little ones. Introduce finger play by encouraging toddlers and pre-schoolers to wiggle their fingers for star twinkling and make a diamond shape with thumbs and pointing fingers.

9. Last song[The Goodbye Song](#)**Benefits**

Brings the session to a clear end.

Tips

Thank all of the children and grown-ups for coming. Give them any information they need about the next session.

Permissions

Please read our guide on [permission to read books aloud online](#).