



Pick a Pocket



Nursery Song-Time!

Nursery age children love to hold a toy! Simply use an Apron with 4 or 5 pockets. Each pocket holds objects to represent a different song. Everyone holds a small object as they sing each song! When some of the children can't sing, this is the perfect way to involve all of them.



1. Have a child Pick a Pocket
2. Pass the objects from that pocket to each child
3. Sing the song
4. Return the objects to the pocket
5. Repeat steps 1-4

MAKING IT FUN

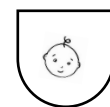
Song Title & Page #	Objects for Apron Pocket	How to Make the Objects
Gospel Songs		
Jesus said love Everyone #61	Picture of Jesus	Purchase 5x7 pictures, glue a paper heart to the back and laminate
Book of Mormon Stories # 118	little Books/Actions	Find miniature books, paint if needed, or make paper or fabric little mini books
Give Said the Little Stream #236	Fish	With Fabric, cut-sew-stuff, sew on buttons for eyes
I love to see the Temple #95	Picture of Temple	Purchase, print or take temple pictures and laminate
I know my Father lives #5	Heart/Actions	Cut out hearts from colorful paper, laminate – make up actions
Jesus wants me for a Sunbeam #60	Yellow paper plates	Cut out the center of each plate, when you sing sunbeam the children put the plates up to their faces and sing
Wise Man & Foolish Man #281	Big Pompoms & Actions	Purchase very large pompoms from craft stores (brown and black) to be the rocks, have the children hold them in their fist as they do the actions
I am a child of God #2	Lead song w/ribbon sticks	Make sticks by cutting a dowel about 14" long, sanding the edges, and then gluing a small pompom on the one end. Now glue part of a long ribbon around this end.
I am like a Star Shining Brightly #163	Stars on sticks	Cut out paper stars, glue them to the top of popsicle sticks
The Chapel Doors #156	Picture of chapel	Take a picture of the chapel you go to, make copies and laminate
Wiggles Songs		
Head Shoulders Knees and Toes #275	Polly pockets/Actions	Find little people, pollypockets, legos, actions figures, and then do the actions while they hold these fun people
If your happy and you know it #266	Bell Bracelets/Actions	Make Bell bracelet by stringing bells onto plastic string with beads in-between the bells. Hold these as you do the actions
Do as I'm doing #266	Shakers/Actions	Gather plastic Easter eggs. Fill half full with dry beans, and then glue both halves together. Shake these fast or slow!
Fun to do #253	Finger Puppets	Crochet or make or purchase finger puppets to make actions to sing to (playing with puppets is fun to do)
Roll your Hands #274	Actions	Roll your arms like you do in wheels on the bus

Song Title & Page #	Objects for Apron Pocket	How to Make the Objects
Fun Songs		
In the Leafy Tree Tops #240	Puppets	Make birds and flowers from felt into finger puppets – or print birds and flowers and tape onto popsicle sticks
Itsy Bitsy Spider	Spiders/Actions	Little plastic ring spiders you find at Halloween
Wheels on the bus	Little cars/Actions	Purchase cars and do the actions while holding a car
Twinkle Twinkle Little Star	Stars	Purchase the glow in the dark stars for your ceiling, hold them high when they are in the sky, wiggle them when they twinkle
Popcorn Popping on the Apricot Tree #242	Popcorn	That morning Pop some popcorn and put it in a ziplock bag and then into your pocket. Hand everyone a couple pieces to eat and sing the song, give them a couple more, and then give the teacher the leftovers to have during snack time
I love Mother/Father (Happy Family) #198	Ties/Necklaces	Gather Dad's old ties, purchase cheap necklaces and dress everyone up to sing this song
Old McDonald Had a Farm	Animals	Find a set of plastic little animals at the store
Mary had a little lamb	Lambs & Mary on sticks	Print out lambs and little marys and glue them to popsicle sticks
If you chance to meet a frown #267	Happy/sad pictures	Find pictures of happy and sad children, put a happy face on one side and a frowny face child on the back side and then laminate
I'm all made of Hinges	Actions	
Seasonal Songs		
Pioneer Children Sang as they Walked #214	Shoes, walking	Find little plastic shoes (doll supply store), each child holds one shoe and walks around the room to sing this song
The Ox Cart #219	Wheels/ox	Find small wooden wheels or lego car wheels, or print a picture of wheels or oxes
It's Raining it's pouring	Picture of old man in bed	Print pictures, color and laminate
Rain is falling all around #243	Raindrops/rain glove	Cut large raindrops out of blue felt, then cut out smaller ones and glue on each fingertip of a set of gloves, you wear the gloves as the children hold the drops
It's Autumn Time	Leaves	Find fake floral leaves, give each child one and act out falling leaves as you sing the song
Away in a Manger #42	Nativity	Find pieces of a child's nativity to bring and let them hold, plus actions are easy to make up with rocking baby, hands folded against your face, hold fingers up high for stars, look down with hand above eyes, rocking baby motion
Christmas Bells are ringing	Bell Bracelets	Make them with plastic string, large bells and plastic beads strung in-between each bell
Falling snow #248	Snowflakes/Actions	Cut snowflakes out of white paper



How to make an Apron!

1. Purchase or Make an Apron (make sure it's plenty large and goes almost to your knees so there is room for Large pockets)
2. Sew on 4-5 Large Pockets



How to Organize your Apron Objects!

1. Place the objects for each song in a different ziplock bag
2. Place a slip of paper in that bag to label it with the song name & Page number and any instructions
3. Put all bags and apron in a container labeled:

Nursery Music

Additional Activities with your Apron!

Each time wear your Apron, but use different games for picking the songs



1. Roll the Die to discover the next song to sing



- Take a Box and label each side with a shape. Next label each pocket of your apron with matching shapes by pinning them on (they could be out of fabric or paper).
- Have a child roll the die then pick the pocket that matches the shape rolled and sing the song in that pocket

2. Fishing out a song to sing



- Take Fishing Pole and background sheet & paper fish - write a song on the back of each fish.
- Have a child fish and then sing the song written on the fish taking out the objects from the corresponding apron pocket

3. Practice Driving the Car and Singing songs in the Car



- Take remote control car, then pin felt cars on each apron pocket
- Have a child drive the remote and then they can pick a pocket to find which song to sing in the car

4. Catch a Butterfly & a song to sing



- Take Butterfly catcher and paper laminated butterflies
- Have a child hold the butterfly net and either you or other children can throw a butterfly in the net, and then pick a pocket

5. Have a picnic and sing a song



- Take basket full of plastic dishes, have plastic food labeled with songs in a separate basket
- Have a child pick out a piece of food and then sing the song using objects from the apron, at the end there should be a feast spread before everyone

6. Ride the Train and discover the Next song to sing



- Take remote control train and track (take your child's or borrow a neighbor friends)
- Have a child hold the remote and drive the train around the track, then pick a pocket to sing until the next train ride - each child is so excited to hold the remote and have the train go around!

7. Weather Songs



- Label each pocket with weather, then fill each pocket with a song that corresponds with it
- **Rain Drop** - Rain is Raining all around, **Leaf** - It's Autumn time, **Snowflake** - Once there was a snowman, **Sun** - Jesus wants me for a sunbeam

8. Tic Tac Toe to sing a song



- Take tic tac toe and bean bags, label apron pockets with Xs and Os (if you don't own the tic tac toe bean bag game simply tape out the game on the floor)
- When a child hits the O with the bean bag she can choose a pocket with an O or if she hits an X she can pick a pocket with an X

9. Animal Songs - below is one cd suggestions - find any cd you own and have fun with it!



- Take CD Player, Yummy Yummy Wiggles CD, Stuffed Elephant & Monkey & Tiger
- Have a children take turns picking pockets
1. Pictures of Kangaroo - Song #9 have the children jump around the room like a kangaroo following you in a line
 2. Puppet Elephant - (Wilabi Walabi Woo) Song #8 sing with cd to let them hear the tune, start the song again and then turn off cd and continue singing using children's names while elephant sits on their head
 3. Stuffed Monkey, elephant & Tiger - Song #13 have them act out the animals as we listen and sing it
 4. Ponies - Song #12 Everyone go around in a circle acting like ponies

10. Play an instrument



- Take instruments for the children to experiment with, take a CD player and play a song that is fast and have them play their instruments fast, then turn it to a slow song & play them slow
 - DRUMS - Cut a $\frac{1}{2}$ " dowel into 12" lengths, sand the edges and paint them, find containers around the house for the drums
 - BELLS - String a bracelet of beads spacing 3-5 bells in-between beads.



Fun Ideas Insert into any Music Time

- 1. Puppets** - Hold up a Boy & boys sing, Hold up Girl and girls sing, Hold up Both and everyone sings. The puppets I used were Bible Puppets and the children loved to hear a short story about who they were. Take a minute before you start to use your puppets and visit with the children. Welcome your puppet visitors and let them talk to the children, they love it! (plentyofpicnics.blogspot.com sells the Bible puppet pattern)
- 2. Fingerplays & Action Rhymes** - You will find even with fun music little minds wander. This works not only during music time but all during Nursery Time. Hand actions snatch their attention as they have to concentrate to follow you! I printed off several from a book I loved and laminated them and clipped them to a ring. I simply had them in a pocket of my apron - always - so I could remember and do any on the spot! An excellent resource is "The Eentsy, Weentsy Spider Fingerplays and Action Rhymes" by Joanna Cole & Stephanie Calmenson The children loved them and could easily do most of the action rhymes in this book! (Don't forget to make them fun with your voice & expressions!)
- 3. Variations on Songs** - For example to the tune of "Wheels on the Bus" change the words to: The Fish in the Ocean goes Swim, Swim Swim . . . all through the day (put your hands together and do a back and forth swimming motion), Seahorse rocks back and forth (step forward and rock your body back and forth), dophin goes squirt squirt squirt (shoot your hands in the air), crab goes snap snap, shark goes chomp chomp chomp, octopus goes wiggle
- 4. Visitors with Musical Instruments** - who do you know that plays an instrument? Ask them to come in to your nursery to play a fun song or even a song the children know and can sing a long with!
- 5. Sign Language** - Use sign language instead of a main word in a song. Use sign language to teach them to stand or sit during a song. You could also teach them an entire (short) song with sign language. I need my Heavenly father page 18 can be taught. Some actions can be dropped to simplify it.
- 6. Song of the Month** - Plan out 12 songs to learn, one for each month. Every month the children will be introduced to a new song. It works well if you sing the song of the month every week during the month. The following month sing it a couple times also. This is a great way to slowly introduce the children to more primary songs and when they move up to Primary they are familiar with many!
- 7. Birthday Time** - On the week of a child's birthday be sure and sing a birthday song! This teaches them the birthday songs and makes them feel special! It's fun to have a paper crown for the child to wear as they stand and are sung to!

When I taught nursery music we had 3 classes. We learned lots of songs, and had a fun time! The Apron became a nursery tradition the kids love! It also is a simple way to organize song time each week!



Created by Valerie Lee at plentyofpicnics.blogspot.com