



# Music Monkeys Nursery Classes

Incorporating  
the EYFS  
syllabus into  
our classes



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Music Monkeys sessions are designed to meet and incorporate the main principles of the EYFS framework, our sessions are accessible in all academic settings as the key elements stretch across the early years.

We look at key elements from the EYFS such as:

Positive Relationships  
Enabling Environments  
Learning and Development  
A unique child

The very young learn through play and a child's early years experience should be happy, active, exciting, fun and secure; and should support their development, care and learning needs.





Our sessions are specifically designed for children up to the year in which they turn five.

The early years framework that we use divides the development of the very young into seven categories.

The three prime areas are:

Communication and Language

Physical Development

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

These prime areas are those most essential for a child's healthy development and future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in four specific areas:

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and Design



## How does Music Monkeys meet the requirements of early years learning?

Here are some of the ways in which Music Monkeys supports developments in all areas identified by the EYFS Framework:

### Communication and Language (CL)

Music Monkeys sessions provide many opportunities for babies and toddlers to listen, to sing, be free to move and to speak. There are opportunities throughout our sessions for children to call out answers to questions, follow simple instructions and join in as a group. Parents are also encouraged to participate and act as role models for their children, especially in classes where children are too young to speak.





### Physical Development (PD)

During Music Monkeys sessions, children have the opportunity to develop a whole range of physical skills. Parachute games, bubble-popping and a physical warm up develop co-ordination and physical self-awareness. Our songs are accompanied by some signs and actions, which help babies and toddlers connect physical movements with meaning.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSE)

Our classes show children how to build relationships with the group leader and other children and adults. They develop confidence in a social situation and an unfamiliar setting; they respond to instructions; they learn to sustain their concentration for a full session; and they discover and explore their own emotional responses in a safe and secure environment.



### Literacy (L)

We sing many popular and traditional songs and rhymes that will also be found in children's books. By learning these songs and rhymes during our classes, children can connect immediately to the pictures that they discover in those books at home or at the library. Many parents have found that this early introduction fosters a love of books from a very young age.

### Mathematics (M)

Many Music Monkeys songs involve counting, following steady rhythms and words relating to shape, size and position.

### Understanding the World (UW)

Every Music Monkeys session follows the same pattern and routine. Being able to predict what is going to happen next helps the very young to learn about the sequence of time. Our termly themes also helps them build vocabulary and understanding relating to a particular area – themes include Transport, Our body, Farm animals, in the Jungle, colours and weather.



### Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

During a Music Monkeys session, children listen and respond to music and use musical instruments. They are encouraged to dance and to engage in imaginative play.

Each Music Monkeys session include the following elements:

Our hello song-makes every child feel included (PSE) and lets everyone know the class has begun (UW)

A warm-up-identifies and exercises different parts of the body (PD) and develops vocabulary – weather words, animals, parts of the body, ways of moving (CL)

Themed songs- mix old favorites with some new songs (EAD), use of props such as puppets, pictures etc (UW) and they often have a mathematical element: counting, shapes, sizes, etc. (M)

Play an instrument- every child in class their own musical instrument to experiment with (EAD), explores different ways of playing: shaking, rolling, rattling, banging, etc. (EAD, UW) and incorporates a follow my-rhythm exercise (EAD, CL)

Parachute play- encourages children to find ways of using the parachute to move objects (PD) and requires children to follow instructions: sit, get off, lift, let go, etc. (PSE, CL)

Bubbles- practices fine motor skills – catch and pop bubbles (PD) and lets everyone know that the class is coming to an end (UW)