

# Reading Assignment

## *Moving and Singing Together*



# Moving and Singing Together

Later in the day, the entire group gathers [with teachers Sam and Beth] in the middle of the block area for large-group time. As the children arrive, Sam sits down and leans back on his hands, bending his knees and lifting his feet up and down. “Tap, tap, tap your feet, tap them on the rug,” he sings to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.” “Tap, tap, tap your feet, tap them on the rug.” The children join in sitting like Sam, singing, and tapping their feet.

“I’ve got an idea,” says Anna at the end of the verse, “your nose!” She sings and demonstrates, “Tap, tap, tap your nose, Tap it with your fingers.”

Sam, Beth, and the other children join in. Petey, Callie, and Bryant offer variations for everyone to try – “Pound your hands,” “Clap your knees,” and “Shake your head.”

After the last variation, Beth says, “I’ve got a new song with four movements. The first one is marching. See if you can do some **marching**.” The children and Sam march in various directions about the block area.

“Okay, marchers, says Beth, “The next movement is **up**. Try stretching up tall.” The children try this out on their own. “Look, I can go really high,” says Jace. “Me, too!” “Me, too!”

After the children have tried stretching up, Beth says, “The next movement is **down**. Try bending and reaching way down to the floor.” Some children bend and touch the floors, others crouch.

“The last movement is **half-way up**,” Beth says. “It’s in between down and up. See if you can make yourself half-way up.” She waits to see how children will interpret this idea.

## Moving and Singing Together (continued)

When some have decided on a crouching stand and others are bending over, Beth says, “Here’s the song that goes with these movements,” and she sings “The Noble Duke of York.” The children and Sam join in with words and phrases on the next several times through the song. The last time, they try out the movements as they sing.

When they are finished singing “The Noble Duke of York” Sam says, “When I turn on the ‘boing-boing’ music, you can move any way the music makes you want to move.” He turns on a tape recording of music that sounds like rubber bands stretching and contracting.

“This is funny jumping music,” Hannah says, as the children laugh and bounce, bend, jump, and stretch.

When the music ends, several children say, “Let’s do it again.”

“Okay,” says Sam, “but this time, think of a way to move to the coatrack so we can put on our coats for outside time.” He plays the music again, and he, Beth, and the children hop, bounce, stretch, and “boing” over to the coatrack.