

Stages of Musical Development

- Stage 1. Likes to hear songs and chants, especially songs with different meter and tone; likes for others to imitate the sounds they make; moves to musical sounds by rocking, patting, or touching to the rhythm; and, likes toys that make musical sounds (infants to 2-year olds).
- Stage 2. Enjoys simple group activities; likes to produce songs; likes to match tones; is less inhibited when singing in groups; loves to experiment with instruments; will make up words that make no sense and sing them to a made-up tune; and, they like to hear their names in songs (2- and 3-year olds).
- Stage 3. Enjoys vocalizing; carries a tune; likes a strong rhythm; likes to dramatize songs with actions; likes silly ditties and nursery rhymes; unrestrained with rhythms; creative in songs and song movements; likes to listen to tapes and CDs that depict action and lots of sounds; and, likes to identify sounds (3-, 4-year olds).
- Stage 4. Wants to sing in tune; can identify high and low tones; likes to choose songs to sing; likes to make up own songs; has greater body control for movements performed to songs; is more self-conscious acting in rhythm and dance; identifies various types of music; enjoys nonsense songs; and, likes to listen to music that depicts action and a variety of sounds (4-, 5-, and 6-year olds).