



Music Party Games

Here are some fantastically fun, simple and creative music games for you to play at home. Fun for all ages and family members.

1) Hide and Seek

What You Will Need :

- A musical toy/music player
- Hiding Spots

How to Play :

- 1) Get your child to close his/her eyes and wait till you hide a musical toy or device within hearing distance somewhere inside your house (preferably a place safe for your child to access).
- 2) Turn on the music and run away from the location.
- 3) Then let your child open his/her eyes and seek the toy by ear.

You can increase the difficulty of this game by hiding the toy in more unlikely places as your child grows better at listening and finding. A spare mobile could also be used.

2) Passing the happy parcel

Everyone's a winner in this fun game!

What You Will Need:

- A small "special" gift in a small package
- Lots of wrapping paper
- Sweets, toffees, stickers, little toys or other treats

How to Play:

- 1) Wrap your main gift in one layer of wrapping paper.
- 2) Place a treat over the main gift and wrap it with more wrapping paper.
- 3) Continue this step until all the treats are wrapped in, making a big package.
- 4) Now, seat the children in a circle. Start passing the package while the music plays.
- 5) When the music stops, the child holding the package is eliminated. However, he/she gets to remove the first layer of the wrapping paper and take the treat!!
- 6) Continue until the only person left gets the 'main' prize!

A good thing to make sure of would be to have enough layers of treats in so that everyone at the party gets one!

3) Little maestros

Did you know that Mozart began composing music by the age of five?

What You Will Need:

- Sheets of paper
- Pencil, crayons or sketch pens

How to Play:

- 1) Designate a symbol for a sound. For example, a circle could denote a clap and a triangle, a snap of your finger.
- 2) Create up to four sounds with their corresponding symbols. Sounds can include simple ones like tapping the table, stomping your foot, etc.
- 3) Create a sequence of symbols that your child can then “read” to make music.
- 4) Encourage them to create their own music, using these symbols and listen to their masterpieces.

This game may be used as an early tool to teach a child that practice makes perfect!

4) The sound of music

Violin? Cello? Flute? This game could seem a little intense to start out with, but it's the one you and your child will keep playing.

What You Will Need:

- Music player
- Instrumental music tracks (best to start music that has one or two instruments)

How to Play:

- 1) Familiarise your child with different instruments and their sounds.
- 2) Play a simple song and let your child guess what instrument is being used in the song.
- 3) As he/she gets well versed in identifying individual instruments, increase the level of difficulty by introducing music with 2 or even more instruments.

It's never too early for your child to get introduced to music!

5) Musical clothes

Another party spin-off of the classic music activities.

What You Will Need.

- A bag full of clothing (the wackier, the better. Include things like wizard hats, capes, party props, etc.)
- Chairs
- Music player

How to Play:

- Arrange the chairs in a circle for the children to sit.
- When the music begins playing, the bag with the clothes and props is passed.
- When the music stops, the child with the bag has to pull out one item from the bag and put it on.

Continue until the bag is empty. Whoever has the most items of 'wacky' clothing on is the winner!

6) Bingo Dance -0

An active and musical version of the classic game of bingo.

What You Will Need:

- Large sheets of paper
- A number of prizes
- Music player

How to Play:

- 1) Number each sheet from 1 to the number of children playing the game.
- 2) Wrap your prizes and number those randomly.
- 3) Place the sheets on the floor.
- 4) Like musical chairs, when the music is switched on, the children walk around the sheets of paper.
- 5) When the music stops, each child picks one sheet to sit or stand on.
- 6) Pick out any one of the wrapped prizes and state the number marked on it.
- 7) The child who picked the sheet with the same number wins the prize. The sheet and that child are now out of the game.
- 8) Repeat till all the prizes are over.

As far as musical games for preschoolers go, this is a party favourite.

7) Nursery rhyme time

Nursery Rhymes are used for early childhood music activities because of their simple rhythm and wording.

What You Will Need:

- Extremely simple nursery rhymes (“Baa Baa Black Sheep” and “Twinkle Twinkle Little Star” can’t go wrong)
- Corresponding actions for the words (easily improvised or found online)

How to Play:

- 1) Teach the child the words of the nursery rhyme, focusing on the rhythm of reciting it.
- 2) When they are familiar with the words and recitation, introduce actions that correspond to the words.
- 3) Another element that could take the place of actions is clapping. Patting hands with a partner or the parent is a good way to build confidence.

This activity also benefits the child’s enunciation.

8) Musical statues

What You Will Need:

- Music player
- Space to dance

How to Play:

- 1) Let the children start dancing when the music is turned on.
- 2) Let them jump and dance for a while and then pause the music.
- 3) When the music pauses, everyone must freeze.
- 4) Anyone who does not freeze or stumble are eliminated.

Continue until one child remains as the winner.

9) Animal Dance

Help your children bring out their inner animal!

What You Will Need:

- Square cutouts with a picture of an animal in each one
- Music player

How to Play:

- 1) Let each child pick a card at random. This activity can be carried out all at once or individually.
- 2) When the music is played, the child dances imitating the animal on the card.
- 3) Repeat the steps for every card you have.

Discuss their movements and how they danced. Down on all fours? Loud? Fast or slow? All these choices show how children's brains work.

10) The dance isles

A blend of musical chairs and musical statues, this one has a charm of its own.

What You Will Need:

- Sheets of newspaper
- Music player
- Space to dance

How to Play:

- 1) Lay the newspapers on the ground (one for each child). Space them out so that there is ample room to dance freely. The paper is their dance island.
- 2) Play some music and let the children dance but only over the newspaper.
- 3) When the music pauses, each kid should freeze within their own “dance island” i.e. the newspaper. If they break the pose or step outside, they are disqualified.
- 4) After each round, the newspaper is folded in half for the kids who are still in the game.

Encourage energetic dancing and play upbeat music. This game can be a good exercise too.

11) Tissue ballerina

Dancing involves a lot of factors; including grace and balance!

What You Will Need:

- A box of tissues
- Space to dance
- Music player

How to Play:

- 1) Each child places a tissue on their head.
- 2) When the music starts, everyone starts dancing.
- 3) If a kid's tissue falls on the ground, they are eliminated. If they manage to catch their tissue before it touches the floor, they can put it back on their head and continue.
- 4) Continue until only one remains standing.

12) The moods of music

The reason why music is universal is because it connects with our emotions. Children to experience music in ways we cannot imagine.

What You Will Need:

- 1) Lots of songs expressing different emotions, such as joy, sadness, anger, etc
- 2) Music player

How to Play:

- 1) Explain the children the objective of this game. Tell them that music can make you feel different at times and encourage them to express how they feel by dancing.
- 2) Play different songs and observe how they dance to each song.

This game helps young ones identify their emotions with the help of music.

13) So you think you can dance?

Appreciating choreography!

What You Will Need:

- Music player
- Space to dance
- To make it interesting, it would be fun to add props or even costumes to the mix

How to Play:

- 1) Divide yourselves into teams of two or more and give them their set of props.
- 2) Let them pick their own music and create a dance routine for it.
- 3) After every team performs, the best team is announced the winner!

More than just fun, this game helps children appreciate the effort that goes in selecting the steps, setting a dance routine and practising. It also teaches them teamwork and improves their communication skills.

14) Music limbo

A party game for all ages!

What You Will Need:

- A pole – it can be substituted with anything straight and long from around the house, such as curtain rods, mop handles, etc.
- Music player

How to Play:

- Limbo is a party game where players bend backwards at the knee to pass under a horizontal beam, without falling over or touching it.
- Add music to the proceedings, and you have Musical Limbo! Children sway and dance their way under the beam held by two adults.

For each new round, lower the bar. The child who can go the lowest without touching the beam wins!

15) Antakshari

What You Will Need:

- Two teams

How to Play:

- 1) The moderator picks a random alphabet to start off a song. The first team sings a song beginning with that sound of the alphabet. Only two or more lines need to be sung.
- 2) The second team then has to sing a song that begins with the last sound of the song sung by the opposite team.
- 3) This goes on until one team fails to come up with a song. Several rounds can be played.

This game could work better with teenagers and adults as they would know more songs than children.