

Song: There's A Little Wheel A Turnin'

Source: Traditional song, Music Together Family Favorites 2, Laurie Berkner Band Favorite Kids' Songs, other recordings

Population: Early Education/ Elementary

Lyrics: many versions and possible substitutions

There's a little wheel a turnin' in my heart
There's a little wheel a turnin' in my heart
In my heart, in my heart
There's a little wheel a turnin' in my heart

There's a little dance a dancin' in my heart...
There's a little drum a drummin' in my heart...
There's a little song a singin' in my heart...

Intervention ideas and goal areas: Song with actions –fine and gross motor movements including concrete movements (clap pat stomp) and make believe play (sleep, run like Sonic), circle reflection, sign language, daily activities and favourite activities, speech sounds and vocal play, animal sounds and actions, instrument play, manipulative (scarves/parachute/stretchy band/balls/toys), basic concepts (location words,) quiet/loud/fast/slow, vocabulary (colours, modes of transportation), exploring emotions, names and social awareness of peers, hello song, transition song, anything else you can think of.

Notes about play-based approaches and influences

This song can be used playfully as a template to address a broad range of goal areas and concepts, making it flexible to use, adapt and develop from week to week in both planned and spontaneous ways in group and 1:1 sessions

Elizabeth Schwartz: Be aware of the different qualities of play and how to respond to children in a playful manner. We need to respond in the moment, not limit experiences, and to respect the child's boundaries. Value the experience of play itself!

Marcia Humpal on how to facilitate musical play: Make materials available and allow total freedom in play, imitate actions and respond to child's play in a turn-taking manner, observe the child and wait, sing about what the child is doing, and model additional ways for the child to do a skill

Music Together: develop a song from beginning to end (intro, transition to next activity, catchy hooks or actions) and explore all the possibilities of using song in ways that are developmentally appropriate for early learners.

Andrew Ichikawa, September 2022