

Activity: The Clapping Game is a fun game which can support listening and communication skills (*Communication and Language – CL*) as well as practicing creative and musical skills (*Expressive Arts and Design - AED*).

All about the senses - What do you hear? What do you see? How do you feel? Can you clap loudly and what does that feel like? What about really, really quietly?

You will need:

Yourselves and your child!

Time to make some music:

Sit opposite your child

Clap your hands once

Can they copy you? Notice what they do?

Clap your hands again, maybe two claps this time.

Invite your child to copy you.

Try making a sound by tapping your hand on a different part of your body – your knee, your belly, your arm.

Take turns to clap and make a sound, and for the other one to copy it.

You can slowly build the amount of beats.

If you have a pot and a spoon you can have a go at making sounds with those – this can get noisy so adapt to suit your child's needs.

Key vocab for your child to hear:

Clap, beat, rhythm, turn taking, listening/active listening, carefully, repeat

Ideas for earlier stages of development:

Clap for your child and see if they try to clap themselves. Copy their movement, take their hands in yours. Use touch on their feet, wiggle their toes. Tap their hand gently with yours and add a sound or a count – 1,2,3.

Extension:

Can you use other parts of your body to create a rhythm? Can you use your feet? Can you hum or make other noises using your mouth? Can you include other things to make a rhythm with?