

## **My First Songs**

By Tomie dePaola

This book is a collection of ten well known songs for parents to sing to their babies and older children.

### **New words and sounds your baby might learn:**

rain, face, play, shoe, baby, one, two, three, dog, hen, mice, pony, bird.

#### **Before:**

- Sing songs and rhymes to your baby, such as “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.”

#### **During:**

- Hold your baby on your lap and help him turn the pages. Read the rhyme on the page he turns to.
- As you read the words sway back and forth to the rhythm of the words.
- Make up hand motions and finger plays as you read. Ex. Circle the baby’s tummy with your finger when you read, “Here we go round the mulberry bush.” Help your baby clap his hands as you sing the Pat-a-Cake song.
- Enjoy the songs with your baby. Singing together helps create a closeness that will last a life time.

#### **After:**

- Sing songs in the car and before your child takes a nap. Singing can help calm him when he is upset.
- Make up a song just for your baby by using his name in the song.
- Sing Native songs.

Try some of the ideas above. Continue to use your own imagination during book play, too. Have fun with the book and enjoy your time together.

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