

SONGS & RHYMES

1. Listen to the songs.

Two content-related songs are on the CD: “Taxes” and “Seven Regions in the United States”. The songs are written and performed by Martha Lehrer Ruelle, Fairfax County, VA.

2. Discuss how teaching with music can be particularly helpful for language learners.

3. On the chart paper, record your thoughts.

Meaningful Music!

Repetition in songs supports and enhances emergent literacy by offering children an opportunity to read higher-leveled text and to read with the music over and over again in a meaningful context. Print put to music also allows children to build on past experiences, which in turn invites them to participate in reading and singing at the same time.

The effects of music on the brain and thinking are demonstrable. Research has shown that during an electroencephalogram (EEG), music can change brain waves and make the brain more receptive to learning. Music connects the functions of the right and left hemispheres of the brain so that they work together and make learning quick and easy. Brain function is increased when listening to music and studies have shown that music promotes more complex thinking. It can make connections between emotions, thinking and learning (Davies, 2000).

Directions

1. **Listen** to the songs and **discuss** with your group how teaching with music can be particularly helpful for language learners. (Two content-related songs are on the CD: “Taxes” and “Seven Regions in the United States.” Songs are by Martha Lehrer Ruelle from Fairfax County, VA.)
2. On the chart paper, **record** your thoughts.

Online Resources

songsforteaching.com

havefunteaching.com/songs

freesongsforkids.com

songdrops.com

flocabulary.com