

Rhythm Stick Song

Rhythm sticks are great for building listening skills, fine motor skills, and definitely self control! My favorites are the shorter natural finish sticks made by Remo. Though more expensive than the longer painted ones, they are well worth the price and you will only need to buy them once. Whichever rhythm sticks you have, make sure one of each pair is smooth, and one has ridges for scraping.

Simply follow the directions in the lyrics. You can play along with the recorded version, or sing acapella, allowing you to slow down some lines when necessary for younger children. After you do this very structured song, it's fun to do the more playful **Peel the Potato** (*also available on my website in the alphabetical Song of the Month section*), letting children choose ingredients for the stew. They just love it and will keep the song going for quite a long time- adding sillier and sillier things to the stew!

NOTE:

Before you use rhythm sticks with children for the first time, talk about keeping their sticks in their own space, and keeping the movements small, being careful not to accidentally whack the child next to them! Some children have a lot of trouble with this, but talking about it ahead of time is great prevention!

Rhythm Stick Song

With my sticks I tap, tap, tap (4 times)

I can tap them way up high

I can tap them side to side

I can tap them down below, very fast or very slow

With my sticks I scrape, scrape, scrape (4 times)

I can scrape them way up high

I can scrape them side to side

I can scrape them down below, very fast or very slow

I can make my two sticks walk, I can make my two sticks run
(tap sticks alternately on ground)

I can make my two sticks talk, make them talk and then I'm done
(tap sticks together for "talk")

I can play them way up high

I can play them side to side

I can play them down below, very fast or very slow