

# Learning Sign Language with Rainbow Songs

Sign language is a great way to communicate with your child before they are capable of speech. But did you know **signing can** help your child learn to sing?

The connection between song, hand actions, and language has been a tradition in children's music for hundreds of years. Actions that parallel the content of the lyrics help children to learn language more quickly and thoroughly.

At Rainbow Songs we combine ASL signs with other simplified signs in our songs to increase connection between words and actions. Using signs helps children to learn words, then lyrics, then the structure of songs. The actions and signs help the children remember both what verse they are singing and what part of the verse they are in.

We use mostly familiar songs to teach signs so we can focus on learning signs, not on learning songs.

### Other sign language tips:

\* Make sure your baby sees your hands clearly. This is key to helping her make the connection between the sign and the word.

\* Stay consistent with your signs. Use them frequently—every time you engage in the activity or say the word.

\* Don't set aside time to sign, just incorporate it into your day, keeping it simple and fun.

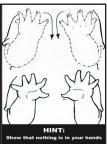
\* Don't worry about teaching all the signs at once; just choose a few to start. When you think your baby is getting the hang of it and signing back, you can slowly add more signs to his repertoire.

### Useful signs include:

More



Done





# Meet our newest instructor: Joanna Kellam

Joanna grew up in Kingston, Ontario, surrounded by music. She first found her passion for musical performance at age 9, when she she took the stage as "orphan with eye patch" in **Oliver!** She studied musical theatre performance at Randolph College for the Performing Arts and has worked professionally in the arts and music community since graduation.

Currently Joanna can be found hosting Music and Truffles, a classical concert series for kids. She also takes the stage once a month for **Musical Hangouts with Joanna Kellam** at Solar Stage Children's Theatre. When she isn't singing, Joanna can be found crafting macrame art and other textile creations, which sell at the Arts Market in Toronto's East end.

Joanna believes that through music we can find our true voices and have confidence in sharing them, so she is thrilled to be nurturing young voices with Rainbow Songs.

Welcome Joanna! She will be teaching this Spring at our High Park, Swansea, Leaside and Kingsway locations.

# Summer 2018 Registration Now Open!

### Enrolling Early Ensures Your Spot in Class!

Our **Summer 2018** session starts on July 9 - schedule and registration available now on our website. Classes fill up **very** quickly, so register early to avoid disappointment!

And remember, current enrollment in a class does not automatically guarantee your spot in the next session, so *please* ensure you register well in advance.

# Follow Us! Like Us! Share Us!

Our **social media** streams are handy for keeping up on RS news, timely registration info, last minute class changes, plus contests, giveaways and special offers!

It's also a geat way to let your f**riends, mums groups and neighbourhood groups** know about us! Be sure like and share our posts!

You can find Rainbow Songs on **Facebook**, **Twitter** and **Instagram**.

# **Special Spring Theme Weeks**

## Earth Week: April 16-21

With Earth Day being too short to really do justice to our planet, Rainbow Songs is happy to have an entire Earth Week of classes. Songs with eco-friendly themes will help us welcome spring and celebrate the Earth.



Tree Song (Lorranie Lee Hammond)

This is my trunk, I'm a tall tall tree In Springtime the blossoms grow on me They open, they open

This is my trunk, I'm a tall tall tree In Summer the breezes blow through me I bend, I bend

This is my trunk, I'm a tall tall tree In Autumn the apples grow on me They drop, they drop

This is my trunk, I'm a tall tall tree In Winter the snowflakes fall on me Brrrrrr....Brrrrrr....

This is my trunk, I'm a tall tall tree In Springtime the blossoms grow on me They open, they open.

## Animal Week: May 14-19

During Animal Week we will be singing songs about our favourite animals. You are encouraged to come to class dressed in your best animal gear or perhaps with a favourite stuffed animal.

## Turtle in My Shell

I'm a turtle in my shell And I can't see you My back's all covered And my eyes are too I'm a turtle in my shell And you can't see me One, Two, Three Peek-a-boo!

### Five Green and Speckled Frogs

Five green and speckled frogs Sat on a speckled log Eating some most delicious bugs Yum Yum!

One jumped into the pool Where it was nice and cool Then there were 4 green speckled frogs Glub Glub!

\*\* Continue song until there are NO green speckled frogs \*\*

### Rainbow Songs Spring 2018



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