



What Makes Boogie Mites Workshops Different?

Boogie Mites Songs

The fabulous Boogie Mites songs are the most popular aspect of our workshops. We work with over **100 original Boogie Mites songs**, which cover many different musical styles and musical skills. Boogie Mites continue to write new songs every term, inspired by the children's interest and responses.

Teachers, EY practitioners and parents particularly love Boogie Mites workshops because the music is uplifting and enjoyed by them as well as by the children. We use some traditional songs but recorded in a Boogie Mites style to liven them up! Parents attending Boogie Mites workshops always comment on how refreshing it is to learn some new and fun songs for pre-school children.

Creative, Participative, Active and Flexible Format

The Boogie Mites workshops aim to be creative and to encourage self expression within a structured format. Our workshop plans therefore act as a guide only and the teacher has the experience, training and talent to adapt the session to the group and to explain the objectives and format to parents, recognising that our role is as much about parent education as children's education. We encourage parent/carer to get on the floor and join in with all songs and activities, we make them feel comfortable about wandering children and suggest that they persevere as most children are drawn back in by our props, instruments and other activities until they become very tuned in to the songs and routine and we then see much improved concentration. We follow a routine which children quickly embrace and follow, starting with warm up and shaker songs to use lots of physical energy and to wake up the brain at the start of the class, followed by the themed section, then rhythm sticks and percussion section then cool down. Children delight in helping to give out and tidy away props at the start and end of each section. Parents comment on how quickly concentration is improved as children get used to the routine and inspired by the activities and because the adults are joining in.

Mixed Age Group

The format of our workshops allows us to work successfully with a mixed age group, including children from 9 months to 4 years. They will all be getting different things from the experience. The older children will work well as role models for the younger children. The BM group leader will understand and share with the parent the different stages of development that the children are at and how they can be encouraged to take part in their own way both in the session and following up at home.



Themed Workshops

Many of the songs cover subjects about the world around us, which allow us to put together music workshops around themes that the children are learning about and we explore these themes through the song and supporting activities such as a stories and role play for older children. Therefore as well as the many benefits of a full and varied music provision, we are also encouraging an interest for exploring and learning about the different subjects covered and will suggest that parents follow up on certain things at home.

Homemade Instruments and Props

We use recycled materials to make our instruments and our props. We hold craft sessions with children to help us make shakers, rhythm sticks, drums, decorate cardboard trumpets, cut scraps of coloured fabric, make fish, sheep etc and collect old toys and teddies to be used in our workshops as relevant to our theme. We sometimes incorporate such craft activities within extended music workshops at children's centres.

Rhythm Sticks

Every workshop includes a sticks activity and song. Rhythm sticks are a fabulous literacy aid for the 2+ children and aid co-ordination and rhythm at a younger age. We have many fun Boogie Mites songs which involve tapping along with rhythms, working with dynamics and tempo and with the rhythm of words.

Cross-Curricular Benefits and Home Support

Our music workshops support all 6 areas of the EYFS and we have listed all competencies and goals covered by each song/activity in each workshop so that BM group leaders are aware of the development benefits we are supporting and can pass this information to parents. We also offer parent education sessions, which are very popular and explain how the sessions support the EYFS. We can cover our music programmes to support L&S phase 1 or PSRN for parents to take home and continue singing at home. The under 2's particular benefit in the area of PSED, physical and creativity development and the over 2's will see children benefit in these areas but also CLLD, PSRN and KUW.

Baby Programme

Our baby programme for mums and babies to pre crawlers is proving to be very popular. This was commissioned and trailed by children's centres in Portsmouth. The focus is on bonding, interaction and giving confidence to mums and carers to enjoy singing to baby. The programme consists of a 6 week course covering all of the Boogie Mites songs and rhymes within the pack, with homework making sensory and sound props to use with the songs.