



SING TO SPEAK NEWSLETTER

EDITORIAL by Will Kantz

Welcome to the first edition of the Sing to Speak Newsletter. Our products are for parents with developmentally delayed and speech delayed children.

Three years ago our child was diagnosed with pervasive developmental disorder and later autism. We have since devoted our time and attention to studying this condition and helping our son overcome his limitations. Having tried many methods and products that didn't live up to the promised results, we are now convinced about what works. Steady progress is the result of five factors:

- 1) LOVE
- 2) PRAYER
- 3) NUTRITION
- 4) STIMULATION
- 5) THERAPY

Sing to Speak does not offer lofty promises. We harness the awesome power of music to help language-impaired children by sequencing our songs developmentally in the order described by the experts, using a four-step method to compel your child to go from singing to speaking, using a picture book to enrich the learning experience, and personalizing the music to catch your child's attention. We have more than 60 songs currently in development to complement each major stage in therapy.

Our products are immersed in love and prayer. We hope the effect for your family will be as encouraging as the results have been for ours.

Does Singing Promote Language?

We are all acquainted with the use of song and rhyme to promote language. Your parents and teachers, like mine, spent endless hours singing nursery rhymes and ABCs as a teaching tool. Music is found in all cultures, and sociologists tell us that before the development of written language, primitive people used songs to teach and pass on tribal history to succeeding generations. From earliest primitive history to the nuclear family, people have used music and rhyme to instill know-

ledge. Why? Is music a vital tool that makes learning fun, or does it enhance the learning process? This article explores some recent discoveries suggesting that music affects the brain in ways that promote learning ...besides being fun.

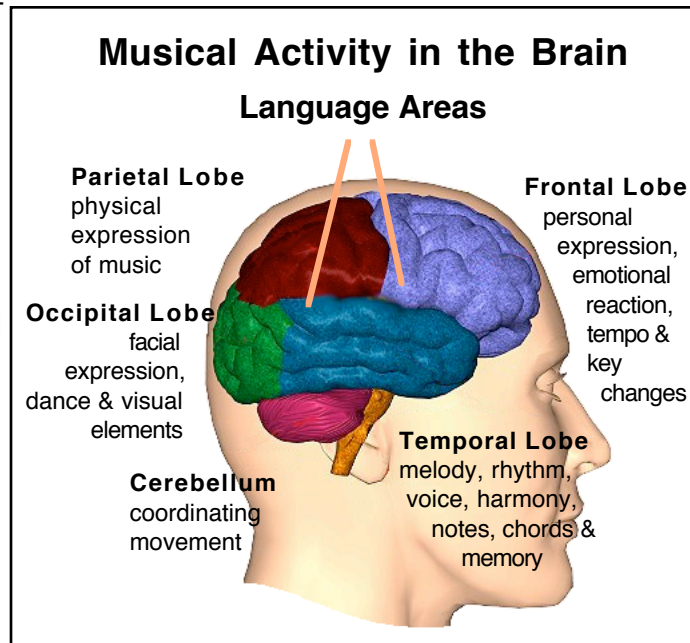
The fact that this small organ we call the brain is the control center for all thought, emotion, sensory awareness and physical activity is astounding. Can anyone begin to understand its intricacies, much less understand the effects of music? Despite the challenge, many institutions all over the world are exploring the mind-music connection. Prominent in this search

are the Department of Neurology at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital. Recent improvements in brain scanning equipment make it possible to observe oxygen absorption in nerve cell clusters. Using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), researchers are now able to observe energy use in different regions of the brain.

While the temporal lobe captures the sound, researchers have found that there is no "music center" in the brain.

Instead music is dissected into many components and interpreted in regions throughout the brain. This physiological process has been observed in passive listening (i.e. the Mozart effect), but the effects are even more profound when the listener

participates. Research in passive listening suggests that music provides a brain boost that could improve math, reading and spatial skills, as well as affect heart rate and blood pressure, but the effects are short-lived. Recent research suggests that *participation* in music duplicates these effects and amplifies the stimulation to many higher functions of the brain with a more permanent result. So profound is this stimulation that it seems (with time) to



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alter the structure of the brain itself.

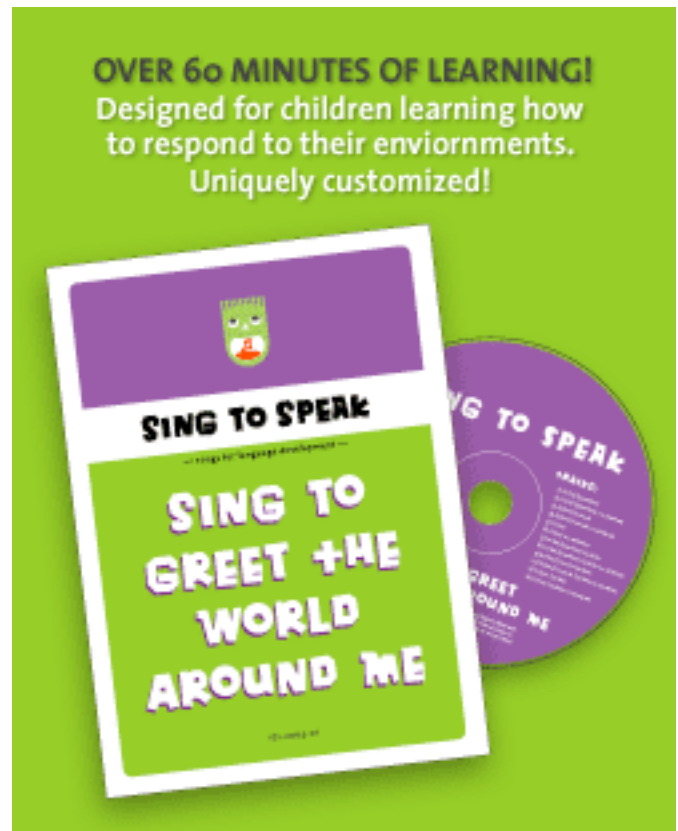
Music participation creates a state of anticipation that envelopes nearly all regions of the higher cortex. It stimulates a function known as "parallel processing." Stimulated are the brain regions for auditory analysis, thought, language, memory, kinesthetics, personality, personal history, expectancy, emotion, even visual perception. To participate in music is to stimulate many higher brain functions, especially the regions responsible for speech and learning.

A famous composer once retired with the statement, "I have nothing left to say." Like this composer who found his voice in music, research is finding that music can give voice to the children who need to discover the gift of language.

Sources

Tramo, Mark Jude, "Music and the Hemispheres," *Science*, vol. 291 (2001), pp. 54-56. Copyright 2001 by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Zatorre, Robert J. and Krumhansl, Carol L., "Mental Modes and Musical Minds," *Science*, vol. 298 (2002) pp. 2138-2139. Copyright 2001 by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.



Sing to Speak (songs for language development)

Using a four step method, Sing to Speak uses music to teach. Our first CD, "Sing to Greet the World around Me," contains our trademark personalized song in which a child is trained to answer common social questions based on an individualized questionnaire. After receiving your information, the twelve social responses are then recorded in song for a unique learning experience.

In other songs, children learn how to label colors, name parts of the body, recognize community helpers, learn about community places, order steps for getting dressed, categorize and make logical conclusions. Our companion picture book expands each lesson as a visual tool to complement each song.

Sing to Speak's four step method is simple yet effective. First, a vocabulary-building song is presented in its entirety. Second, the same song is

repeated with strategic omissions in the lyrics. Third, topics in the song are then spoken in a question answer format. Fourth, the same questions are spoken again omitting the answers. This four-step method is repeated with every song on the CD.

Our second CD, "**Sing to Tell You How I Feel**" will be available in spring of 2004. Sing to Speak is feverishly working to aid children in recognizing and understanding emotions, both in themselves and in others. Borrowing from Mozart, Strauss, and other classical composers, this compilation not only explains the vocabulary of happy, sad, peaceful, angry, proud and scared but musically illustrates the connection between feelings and words.

Read about our success, hear our music samples, and find out how to order a personalized CD for a child you love at singtospeak.com.

Visit our web page often.

We are constantly developing new products in response to your support and feedback.