

## Listening Skills

### Ideas and questions to explore in your setting.

By using music as a focused listening activity you are placing a value on music listening.

- You can use pictures e.g. pictures of weather, animals, emotions, colours to see if children would like to match pictures to music.

- When introducing children to new music it may be useful to play familiar music to begin with to enable some children to tune into listening.

- You can ask children a range of questions during music listening activities.

We explored many questions throughout the project and found that how we framed the question was extremely important. Some children like to simply listen without doing anything else. If a child asked you to read a story to them within child-initiated learning/free flow the likelihood is that most educators would say yes and do so. How feasible is it for children to listen to music if they want to? It is not as easy as reading a story with children as music cascades and can disrupt other learning taking place in a space. If it is not possible to create a listening area is it possible to create the ability for children to listen to music at certain times in the day or throughout the week?