

Specto 1: Produce a Podcast

About Jitterbugs Podcast

Specific Library Type:
My podcast entitled *Little Jitterbugs* focuses on a public library environment, specifically the children's department. The series will benefit parents and caregivers of young children seeking interactive and



fun musical experiences. Each of the episodes will focus on a particular artist/album that is innovative and popular among the target audience. The resource types discussed will include audio CDs, digital music downloads, and availability on audio streaming services (Spotify/Pandora).

Content

To help parents/caregivers of young children learn about fun music the whole family will enjoy!

Episode 1: Dan Zanes & Friends

Hi! I am Kerry the Librarian and I am here to help you discover musical experiences your whole family will enjoy. It is no secret that nursery rhymes and music are important for a young child's development; rhymers are readers after all. The repetition of rhymes and stories teach young children how language works, builds vocabulary, and nurtures important memorization skills (PBS, 2017). Does that mean the children's music we listen must be boring and lackluster? No Way!

To kick off our musical journey together, let's start with one of my family's favorite musicians, Dan Zanes. Dan Zanes & Friends is so unique because the band doesn't stick to one genre of music. The

songs range from rollicking sea shanties ([John Kananack](#)), folk music ([Now Let's Dance](#)), reggae rhythms ([Jamaica Farewell](#)), rock-and-roll ([Let's Shake](#)), and early blues, to name only a few. And the great thing about Dan is that there might be a dozen different styles featured on a single album. Zanes has toured the globe and his exposure to different traditions and cultures shines through on each of his albums. Zanes uses special and talented artists on many of his CDs, including Bob Weir, Debby Harry, and Sheryl Crow. His music is available in a variety of formats including audio CD, digital download from iTunes, Amazon Prime music, Vinyl, and streaming services such as Spotify, Pandora, and Apple Radio. DZ content is also available on OverDrive and Hoopla from your local library.

Other ways to experience DZ

- ✚ Live shows! Dan still tours occasionally and has new material coming out in 2017
- ✚ Sometimes DZ holds special engagement family workshops where kids and parents get together and make original music with Dan!
- ✚ Dan's website (danzanes.com) which features a discography, news, shop, and groovy instructional videos for various instruments taught by DZ
- ✚ Facebook page, Twitter, Instagram
- ✚ Dan Zanes and Friends Web Series on Youtube

Well I hope you have found this episode useful and inspiring. Now get out there and dance and sing with your little jitterbugs! Here is a track called "[All Around the Kitchen](#)" from Dan Zane's album *Family Dance*. Have a musical day, until next time..."

Fade out with a track snippet for listeners to get a taste of the music.

Episode 2: The Wiggles

Hi! I am Kerry the Librarian and I am here to help you discover musical experiences your whole family will enjoy. It is no secret that nursery rhymes and music are important for a young child's development; rhymers are readers after all. The repetition of rhymes and stories teach young children how language works, builds vocabulary, and

nurtures important memorization skills (PBS, 2017). Does that mean the children's music we listen must be boring and lackluster? No Way!

Now, who needs the Beatles when you can listen to The Wiggles? Another famous Fab Four, The Wiggles are an Australian super group that has been around for more than 20 years. Founding member Anthony Field has a background in early education and wanted to make music that engaged children and was beneficial. Originally an all-male group, the new line-up now features a female. Tunes are a mixture of classic nursery rhymes ([Apples and Bananas](#)) and original material ([Do the Propeller!](#)). There are several ways to listen to The Wiggles including audio CDs (and there are a lot!), digital download from iTunes GooglePlay and Amazon Prime music, and streaming services such as Pandora, Spotify, and Apple Radio. Select Wiggles albums are also available for free on Hoopla from your local library.

Other ways to experience The Wiggles

- ✚ The Wiggles have several television spots. Currently in the US, their shows and films can be viewed on such subscription services as Hulu or open access outlets such as their official YouTube channel which boasts 170 videos. The group also has countless DVDs available for borrowing at your library or purchase from major retailers such as Amazon.
- ✚ The Wiggles have a really cool website for kids and parents! The site has interactive games, videos, and printables for children. There is also a Resource Center for parents that provides Early Childhood education info, Health and Safety, and Birthday and other occasion printables.
- ✚ See them live! The Wiggles tour extensively all over the world and nearly year-round. The website provides news and up-to-date tour information and ticket purchase options.
- ✚ Lastly, The Wiggles are social media gurus and have FB, Twitter, and Instagram accounts. Any of these platforms will keep you informed about Wiggly happenings!

Well I hope you have found this episode useful and inspiring. Now get out there and dance and sing with your little jitterbugs! Here is a classic

Wiggle's track called "Fruit Salad" from the album *Yummy Yummy*.
Have a musical day, until next time..."

Fade out with a track snippet for listeners to get a taste of the music.

Episode 3: Raffi

Hi! I am Kerry the Librarian and I am here to help you discover musical experiences your whole family will enjoy. It is no secret that nursery rhymes and music are important for a young child's development; rhymers are readers after all. The repetition of rhymes and stories teach young children how language works, builds vocabulary, and nurtures important memorization skills (PBS, 2017). Does that mean the children's music we listen must be boring and lackluster? No Way!

Now, no discussion of the children's music genre would be complete without celebrating the talented Canadian singer-songwriter, Raffi. Perhaps he is the first musician you think of when someone's mentions children's music. Raffi Cavoukian is a musician, author, and child advocate known simply by his fans as Raffi. He became popular in the 1970s and continued into the 90s with his simple, folksy versions of classic children's nursery rhymes and stories, such as ([Baby Beluga](#)) and ([The More We Get Together](#)). Other classics that you can incorporate into your day include ([Brush Your Teeth](#)) and ([Peanut Butter Sandwich](#)). If you are unfamiliar with Raffi, I recommend his *Singable Songs for the Very Young*. Personally, we listen to Raffi's *Quiet Time* album during wind down times such as naps and bedtime. Raffi just released a new album in 2016 entitled *Owl Singalong* which features lots of different music styles and is so much fun to sing along to. Fortunately, his music is widely available in a multitude of formats including Audio CDs, digital download from iTunes GooglePlay and Amazon Prime music, and streaming services such as Pandora, Spotify, and Apple Radio. Raffi music is also available on Hoopla from your local library. And if you are lucky enough to still own a cassette player, Raffi was popular during the cassette era and so finding them at garage sales and thrift shops is another fun idea!

Other ways to experience Raffi

- ✚ Raffi has a website (raffinews.com) where you can find his works, raffi's latest news, lyrics & arrangements for each of his songs, and access to digital downloads. Also available from the site is a comprehensive list of blog contributions.
- ✚ There are several toddler books, many in sturdy board book format, that are read-alongs with such songs as *Down by the Bay* and *Five Little Ducks*. Provide a whole new sensory experience as you follow along in a book while listening to Raffi songs!
- ✚ There are several DVDs featuring Raffi in concerts so check your local library and major retailers.
- ✚ Raffi is actively involved in environmental and children's issues but sometimes appears for concerts. Be sure to check his website for the most recent engagements.
- ✚ Use FB and Twitter pages for Raffi news and updates and visit YouTube for fun Raffi videos.

Well I hope you have found this episode useful and inspiring. Now get out there and dance and sing with your little jitterbugs! Here is a fun Raffi tune called "[Shake My Sillies Out](#)" from the album *More Singable Songs*. Have a musical day, until next time..."

Fade out with a track snippet for listeners to get a taste of the music.

Episode 4: Ziggy Marley

Hi! I am Kerry the Librarian and I am here to help you discover musical experiences your whole family will enjoy. It is no secret that nursery rhymes and music are important for a young child's development; rhymers are readers after all. The repetition of rhymes and stories teach young children how language works, builds vocabulary, and nurtures important memorization skills (PBS, 2017). Does that mean the children's music we listen to must be boring and lackluster? No Way! This podcast series will explore the genre of children's music to help parents and caregivers discover old classics, new favorites, and everything in between!

While most of you know or have heard of famous Jamaican reggae artist Bob Marley, what you may not know is that his son Ziggy Marley has made two groovy children's album called *Family Time* and *B is for*

Bob. The *Family Time* album was released in 2009 and is a compilation of original and cover material. The album is full of famous collaborations such as a cover of Woody Guthrie's ([This Train](#)) and a popular Jamaican favorite ([Hold Em Joe](#)). Artists on the album include Jack Johnson, Paul Simon, Willie Nelson, and even Ziggy's mom Rita Marley and his (at the time) 3 year-old daughter Judah. Ziggy's says of his album that it is "the beginning of a discussion with children and families to make the future a better place for...the 'world' family. But it starts with our own families" (Graff, 2009).

The *B is for Bob* album is actually a post-humous album of Bob Marley & The Wailers. Ziggy took some of his father's classics such as ([Three Little Birds](#)) and ([Jamming](#)) and remixed them with a younger audience in mind.

Both *Family Time* and *B is for Bob* are available in multiple formats including audio CDs, digital downloads from iTunes Amazon Prime Google Play, streaming services such as Pandora, Spotify, and Apple Radio and Hoopla from your local public library.

Other ways to experience Ziggy and Bob Marley

- ✚ Not surprisingly, both Marleys have websites with information on music and projects, including listening options. However, don't expect websites dedicated exclusively to the genre of children's music but rather to the musicians and their legacies, and in Ziggy's case, current projects. This is the same case with the various social media accounts for both musicians.
- ✚ Both albums have videos on YouTube and some have wonderful graphics and animations to go along with them!

Well I hope you have found this episode useful and inspiring. Now get out there and dance and sing with your little jitterbugs! Here is a fun Ziggy tune called "[Ziggy Says](#)" from the album *Family Time*. It is a fun adaptation of the classic "Simon Says." Have a musical day, until next time..."

Fade out with a track snippet for listeners to get a taste of the music.

References

- Graff, G. (2009, April 13). Ziggy marley remixing dad's classics for kids. Retrieved from <http://www.billboard.com/articles/news/268957/ziggy-marley-remixing-dads-classics-for-kids>
- Sizer, M. (n.d.). The surprising meaning and benefits of nursery rhymes. Retrieved from <http://www.pbs.org/parents/education/reading-language/reading-tips/the-surprising-meaning-and-benefits-of-nursery-rhymes/>