

Love and Music

Age

6-12

Duration

60-90 minutes

Group size

5+

Overview

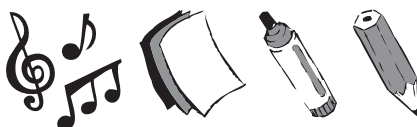
In this activity, children explore different types of love relationships through music and dance.

Objectives

- To explore how love relationships are portrayed in popular music
- To consider what kinds of relationships exist and who can love whom
- To enjoy making music together

Materials

- Music player with speakers
- Songs about love from the charts and their lyrics (preferably in the language spoken by all members of the group)
- Space to dance, preferably different rooms
- Optional: A projector to show the lyrics
- Flipchart paper and pens



Step-by-step instructions

1. Play love songs from the charts to the group. The group can either sit and listen or dance if they feel like being energetic.
2. After you have played each one, discuss:
 - What gender does the person singing in the song identify with or is it a group? (are they a man/woman/other/group of people)?
 - Who are they singing to/about?
 - What is the message of the song?
3. Take notes of their answers on a flipchart. It will be helpful to project the song lyrics onto a wall.
4. Divide the children into smaller groups. Each group should write a song about different kinds of love. Suggest they pick the tune of an existing song and just write new lyrics.
5. If some in your group like to dance, suggest that they create a dance to go with their new song.
6. Perform the songs to each other.

Debriefing

- What kinds of relationships did we hear about in the first songs?
- Are there any other kinds of relationships that you know about?
- Why do you think most songs are about love between a man and a woman?
- Do you know of any songs about other kinds of relationships?
- Can anyone love anyone?

Tips for facilitators

You can also ask the group to bring their own songs or give some same-sex love song examples (a Google search will help you). You can also show the videos of some songs and discuss what they are trying to show.

With all the songs and videos used make sure you have read the lyrics or watch the clip and made sure they are age-appropriate for the group you are working with.

If you want to discuss a song which is in a different language, you can translate it beforehand and show the lyrics in both languages on a screen.