Great Big World

Jean Piaget explained the stage from 2-7 years old as the time that children exhibit egocentrism or the belief that the world revolves around them. As educators, we can help our children through this stage by helping them realize there are other people, places and things beyond themselves. This song is a great way to introduce children to their "Great Big World".

WHAT THEY LEARN

Singing, sign language, developing an awareness of self

WHAT YOU NEED

- **Great Big World recording**

WHAT TO DO

- Begin by speaking or singing the lines of the song one at a time, pausing to teach the signs as you go.
- For older children, ask if they can identify the sound that "world" starts with. The sign for "world" begins with making a "W". This can be tricky for small hands because of the fine motor control needed to make the "W" shape. They can approximate to the best of their ability.
- Continue with teaching the rest of the signs.
- Allow the children to get their "W"s ready again. Play the song and sign along. As they learn the signs, they will also learn the words to the song. Encourage them to sing along.

LYRICS

There's a great big world around me,
So many wonderful things to see.
Let's explore and learn some more
All about me.

Extension

As the children get to know the song, try changing out the word "me" for other words such as family, community, etc. To learn the sign for these, go to **www.lifeprint.com.**

Music Therapy Connection

To further help children understand the concept of the world around them, incorporate visuals of people, places and objects from their surroundings while implementing this activity.

Great Big World

SIGN LANGUAGE (click the word to see a demonstration)

world: hold your right "W" hand on top of your left "W" hand. Move both hands simultaneously in a circular motion around each other.
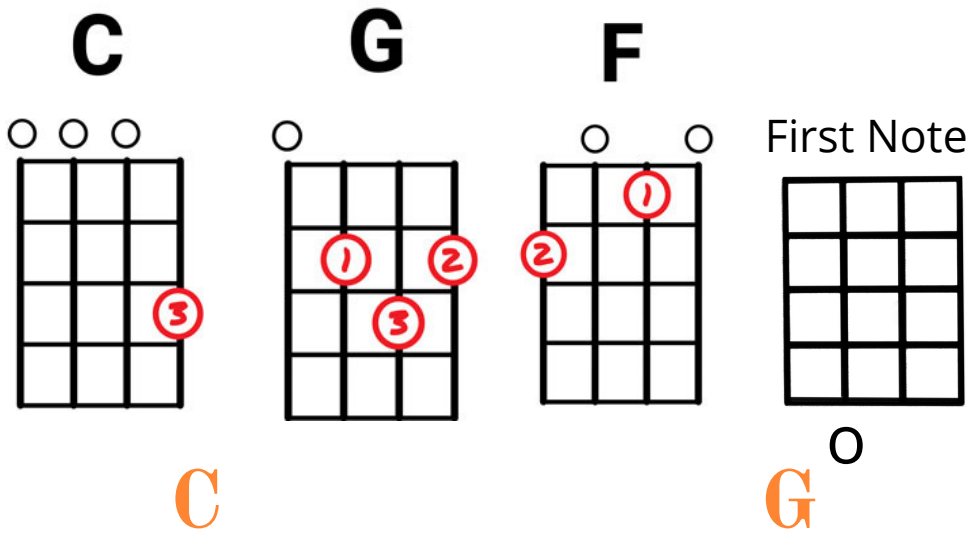
see: "V"-hand, palm facing inward against eye. Move hand away from eye and down

more: flattened "O" hands. Bring both "O" hands together

me: point to self with index finger to the chest

My Great Big World

C

There's a great big world around me,

C   **G**

So many wonderful things to see.

C   **F**

Let's explore and learn some more,

                        C

All about me.