Excerpted from Family Time Reading Fun: Help Children Become Successful Listeners, Speakers, Thinkers, and Writers by Linda M Clinard

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## **Clapping Machines**

## Hearing and Responding to Words and Syllables in Songs and Poems

Favorite children's programs and videos often have songs your child likes to sing. Invite your child to choose songs and poems from audio and video resources you choose.

- Listen to the songs and poems with your child.
- Clap to each syllable in the words. (Mar-y had a lit-tle lamb. Lit-tle lamb. Lit-tle lamb ...)

Have a good time. You can even get up and dance while you clap! After becoming "clapping machines," talk about the importance of listening for the beat and trying to clap with each syllable.

