SPARK: Simple Play Adaptations to Reference for Kids

Switch Adapted Baby Einstein Sing Along

(Multisensory Switch Toy Kit 2 – EC COE)

Description:	Image:
Toys activated by switches are often used with children who lack the motor strength, endurance, or control to play with a toy in the usual way. The switch provides a way for the child to push a switch to activate the toy to do a specific function. This toy offers the opportunity for a child to engage in a sensory lights and music cause and effect activity. The switch Adapted Baby Einstein Sing Along Toy is activated by pushing an external switch to play 7 high-quality classical melodies. The red button on the top allows the user to toggle between two volumes, low and high. Colorful lights dance across the screen to each song.	 Purchasing Information Demo Video

Who Might Benefit?

Those who…

- Children who need further practice and support of fine motor and eye hand coordination skills.
- Need a highly engaging activity to attend, focus, and participate in the activity.
- Need an opportunity to learn about and experiment with simple cause and effect activities.

Why Use?

Provides an opportunity to…

- Refine eye hand coordination for reaching, targeting, pressing, and releasing.
- Practice visual attending skills and attention to task with an engaging activity.
- Understand simple cause and effect.

Instructions for Use:	Adaptation Ideas:
Environmental Considerations • Can be used in any environment but may not be suitable for quiet environments due to the music and flashing lights that occur when the toy is activated. Although the toy does have the option of a low volume setting so it may be possible to use it in	**Optional Additional Materials/Supplies** • Dycem • Velcro **Stabilize It** • The base of the toy and switch could be placed on Dycem or velcroed to a table or the

some community settings too. Additionally, it is easily transportable as it is rather small and has a built in carry handle.

Positioning

- This toy along with the switch are best used positioned on a flat surface such as on a tabletop or on the floor with the child seated in a chair, on the floor, or standing. Position the toy so it is easily seen by the child and then position the switch, so it is in easy reach and sight of the child.

Alternate Positioning

- If the toy is positioned on the floor it would be possible for the child to interact with the toy and switch in prone (on their belly) or side-lying positions too.

Basic Play/Use

- The switch should be plugged firmly into the switch port of the toy. Be sure the child is positioned close enough to the Sing Along toy to be able to see and hear the activity. Demonstrate how the music and lights play if the switch is pressed, then encourage the child to explore and press the attached switch so the Sing Along Toy is turned on. Encourage the child to continue to explore on their own. This is a simple cause and effect use of the toy.

Extended Play/Use

- Ask the child to play a specific number of songs (e.g. play 2 songs, play 3 songs, etc.).
- The switch used to activate the Sing Along toy could be moved around in different locations in both horizontal and vertical locations to encourage practice in directed reach, pushing, release, and spatial orientation (e.g. up, down, forward, backwards).
- Take photos of the 4 toys in the Multisensory Switch Toy Kit 2 and print the photos. Create a foam board choice board and carpet on the floor, so it doesn't move away from the child.

Simplify It

- A cloth or cardboard shield could be used to eliminate the lights on the toy if those are too much for the child.

Add Sensory Cues

- Sensory cues could be added to the switch such as puffy stickers, puffy paints, different textures. The color of the switch could also be changed. A picture symbol could be added to the switch to indicate that pushing the switch activates Sing Along toy.

Communication Support

- Provide a communication board with vocabulary appropriate (e.g. more, stop, go, help, on, off push, release, high, low, up, down, etc.) for the child to engage with the Sing Along toy.

Alternative Uses

- Different types of switches could be trialed if the included switch is not usable by the child. The OCALI lending library has several kits with multiple types of switches that can be trialed.

DIY Alternatives

- Create a Choice Board - The OCALI Autism Center Grab and Go Resource Gallery of Interventions has a number of choice board templates and examples that could be used to create the choice boards indicated above in the Extended Play/Use section. Additionally, there are several examples of different ways choice boards can be effectively displayed.
- It may be possible to use a battery interrupter to quickly switch adapt a standard battery-operated Sing Along Toy that does not have a switch port, but has a specific on/off function. The video describes how to make this adaption. (NOTE: the battery interrupter needed is specific to the size of the battery in the device).

encourage the child to select which toy they would like to play with. When the child makes a selection honor their choice by providing the selected toy for play. Begin by providing 2 choices adding additional choices as the child tolerates.

Play/Use with Others

- Children could take turns pushing, holding, and releasing the switch to start the Sing Along toy music.



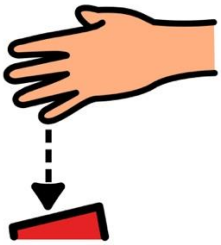
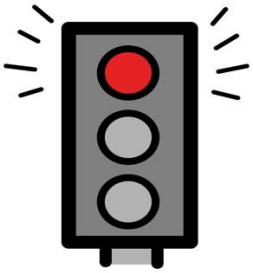
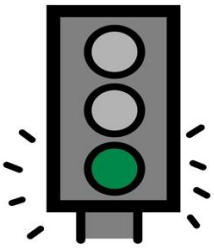
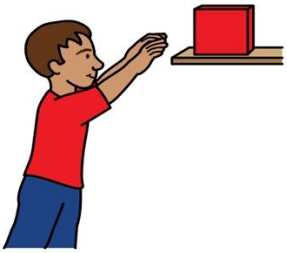
Additional Considerations:

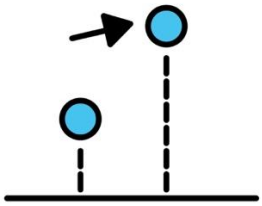
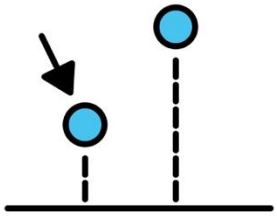
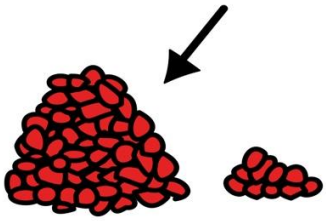
- The Sing Along toy requires 2 AA batteries along with an external switch.
- The Sing Along has lights and music. Some children with sensory sensitivities may not be able to tolerate the sound. Sound can be adjusted to either high or low setting. Noise cancelling headphones could be used by the child to help reduce the noise if needed and can be obtained from the OCALI lending library as one of several items in the Sensory Regulation Kit.

Ohio Early Learning Standards

- SC: Science Inquiry and Application: Develops ability to reason about cause and effect. (1.b.).
- MA: Geometry: Develops understanding of spatial relationships (4.b.).
- AL: Engagement and Persistence: Persists in completing a task with increasing concentration (1.c.).

Words to Encourage Play/Use

Push 	Press 	Hold 
Release 	Stop 	Go 
Button/Switch 	On 	Off 
Reach 	Up 	Down 

High 	Low 	Music 
More 		

Adapted from: Haugen's Modes for Adapting Toys based on materials from the "Let's Play" Project at the University of Buffalo

PCS is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox, LLC. All rights reserved. Used with permission.