

MINI-LESSON: HAPPY BIRTHDAY

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Activity On a Sunday near the child's birthday, while the children are gathered for the lesson, snack, or music time, tell the children, "[Child's name] has had [or will soon have] a birthday!" Invite the children to say, "Happy birthday."

Tell the children how old the child will be on his or her birthday. Invite them to count to that number with you on their fingers. Repeat a few times.

Song Sing or say the words to "Happy, Happy Birthday" (*Children's Songbook*, 284) and invite the children to join you:

Happy, happy birthday, [child's name], dear;

Happy days will come to you all year.

If I had one wish, then it would be

A happy, happy birthday to you from me!

Invite the children to say, "Happy birthday" and clap their hands.



TEACHING TIPS

Children love to hear their names. The greatest gift you can give children is to love, recognize, and value them. Do not give other gifts for their birthdays in nursery. Celebrate the child, not gift giving.