Music, Lyrics and Videos
How does Music affect children in regards to...

- Cognitive Ability
- Beliefs & Behaviors
- Social Patterns
1. Cognitive Ability

How does music affect the way a child learns and grows?
“Does Music Change a Child’s Brain?”

“It’s not necessarily that music[al] kids get better faster... but they get better more consistently.”
2. Social Patterns

How does music affect the way a child connects with others?
Listening Activity
Music Connects Us

- Music can be a very strong connecting (or disconnecting) factor among children.
- Children tend to be more drawn to those who have similar music taste.
  - Interestingly, they also tend to reject those who do not share their taste.
- Therefore, music taste plays a role in forming group identity among children.
3. Beliefs & Behaviors

How does music affect the way a child thinks and acts?
Compare the two songs and hypothesize the effects this music has on a child's behavior

A Little Piece of Heaven by Avenged Sevenfold

Heal the World by Michael Jackson
Studies have shown that children who listened to aggressive lyrics exhibited more aggressive behavior than those who listened to “neutral” or “nonaggressive” lyrics.

Young men who listened to misogynist lyrics offered more negative views of women than those who did not (and vice versa).

Many pediatricians and scholars advise against children listening/watching music media with explicitly violent, sexual, or drug related content.

Music that devalues education can also negatively influence behavior.
Positive Effects

- Studies show that listening to prosocial music reduces aggressive thoughts and behaviors in youth.

- Prosocial lyrics and video can also increase empathetic skills and behavior in youth.
Children can reflect the behaviors exhibited in popular music. This can be via a wide range of activities like recreating looks of their idols or literally recreating their performances.
Parents are encouraged to monitor music media usage...

However, it’s becoming increasingly difficult in today’s world.

Music media easily accessible through:
- Apps
- Streaming Services
- Social media
- Television
Discussion Questions
Question 1
Do you think children listening to/watching more mature music media at a younger age has an effect? If so, what kind of effect?

Question 2
How do you think music media has effected you in your life?

Question 3
Do you think the music parents play effects their young children as they grow?
Thanks!

Any questions?