The long and short sounds (duration), as well as our rest (moment of silence), that we have been learning can be combined into varying patterns. These patterns are called RHYTHM. We can then add visual symbols to represent the different sounds we are making. This is called NOTATION, and is a great precursor to reading.

We learned the song "I Went Walking". We "read" the poster to know how long to hold our animal sounds. For instance, the cow says a very long moooooooooo, so the picture of the cow was stretched out long. Where as our woodpecker makes very short pecking sounds, so the picture of the woodpecker is very short. The shorter the sounds, the more pictures we have to fill the same space of time. This helps us practice associating a symbol with a sound.

I went walking one fine day, met a cow and she did say:
mmmmmoooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo.
I went walking one fine day, met a cat and she did say:
meeeeeeeeeeowwww, meeeeeeeowwww.
I went walking one fine day, met a pig and she did say:
oooooiiinnnnnk, oooooiiinnnnnk, oooooiiinnnnnk.
I went walking one fine day, met a dog and she did say:
wooooof, woooof, woooof, woooof, woooof, woooof, woooof.
I went walking one fine day, met a woodpecker and she did say:
peck-a-peck-a-peck-a-peck.

Adding our rhythm sticks, we also learned "We Are Gathered". We began by saying the name of different sea creatures, while looking at pictures of the creature and recognizing how many beats the name gets. We then sang the following song and tapped out the rhythm of the combined names:

We are gathered here at the ocean.
We are gathered here at the sea.
Listen to our rhythm and motion.
Play the rhythm after me.

sea tur-tle, crab, fish, whale
puf-fer fish, star fish, shrimp
dol-phin, clam, eel, seal
sting ray, sea horse, great white shark