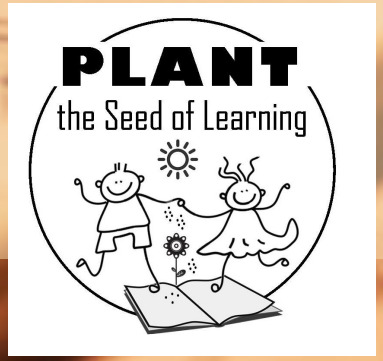
Making Music with Your Child

Plant the Seed of Learning



During the Session

- Families will enjoy interacting with Music through singing, dance, movement, and instruments.
- Props will be shared including scarves and instruments.
- Familiar songs will be sung as a group.

Bonding Through Music

- Caregivers and babies can make music together while forming powerful connections with each other.
- Music introduces babies to sounds and helps strengthen memory skills.
- Movement is encouraged, thus developing coordination.
- Music builds creative skills.

Building Your Child's Brain

- **"Researchers believe that musical training actually creates new pathways in the brain."**
- Listening to classical music can improve spatial reasoning.
- Research shows that newborns can discriminate between their native language and unfamiliar language by listening to pitch and rhythm.

Recent Studies

- Found that one-year-old babies who participate in interactive music classes with their parents smile more, communicate better and show earlier and more sophisticated brain responses to music.

Interactive Music

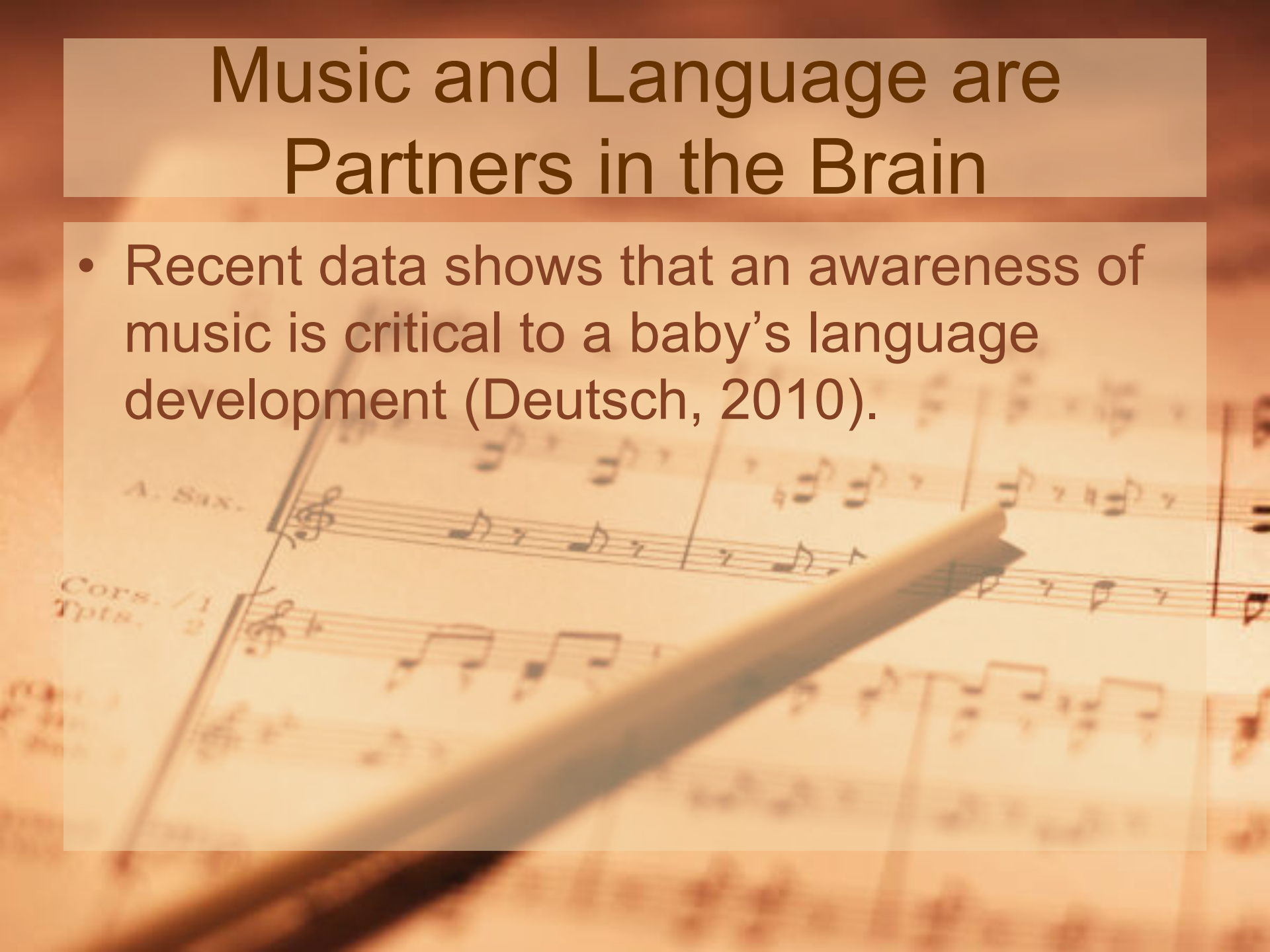
- Interactive music-making involves learning a small set of lullabies, nursery rhymes and songs with actions. Parents and infants work together to learn to play percussion instruments, take turns and sing specific songs.

Further Research

- Learning to play a musical instrument does have impacts on other abilities. These include speech perception, the ability to understand emotions in the voice and the ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously.
- There is a connection between learning to play an instrument and improved executive functioning, like problem-solving, switching between tasks and focus.

Music and Language are Partners in the Brain

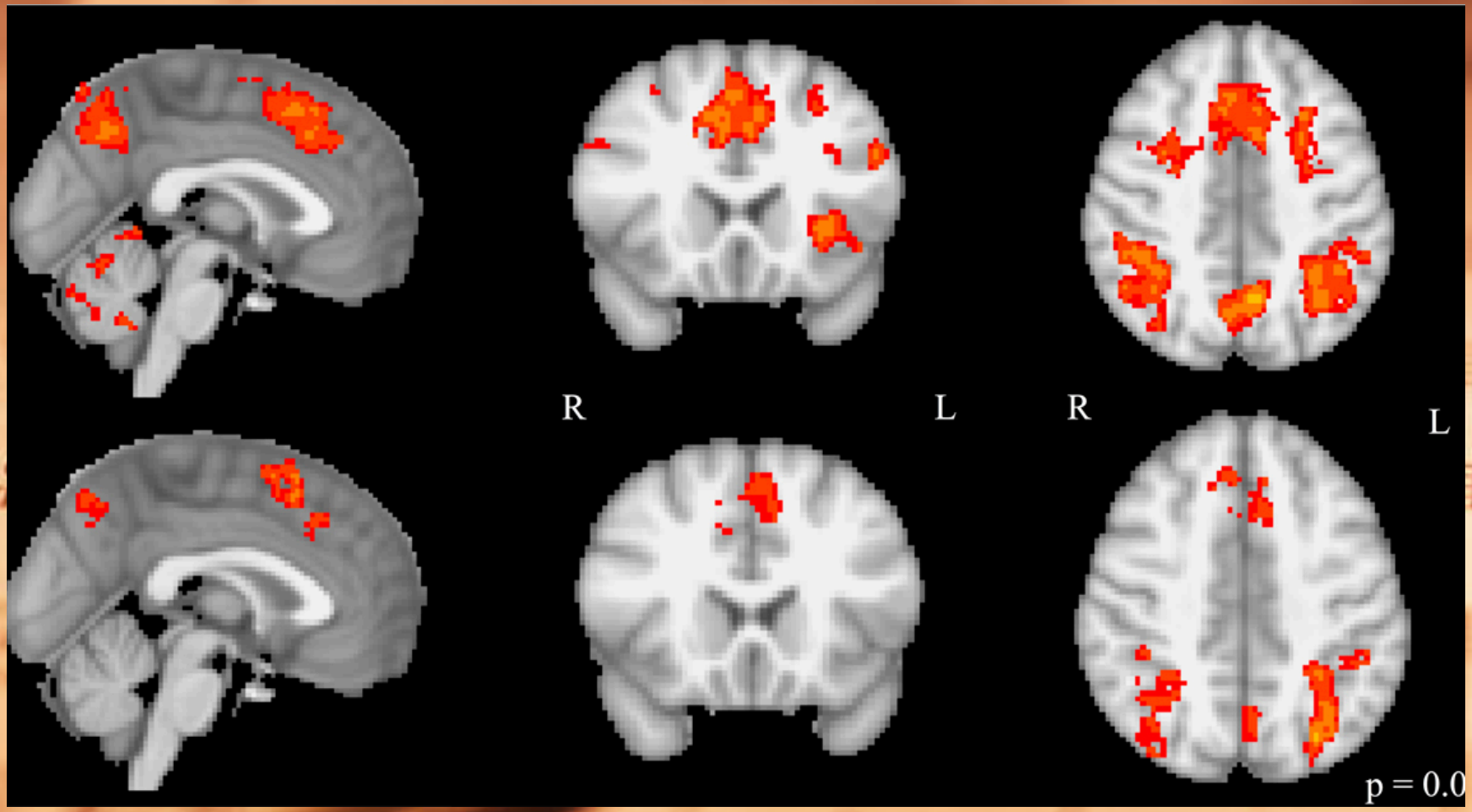
- Recent data shows that an awareness of music is critical to a baby's language development (Deutsch, 2010).



Music and Literacy

- Musical development of children predicted their language and literacy ability.
- In a study children were asked to write visual symbols to represent the sound sequence they were hearing.
- This would test their working memory, a kind of mental Post-it note crucial to language comprehension.

Musically Trained Brains



Findings

- Kids who had severe difficulty with the task were also struggling with reading and writing.
- They found that this task, given to second-graders, can predict their literacy ability in the fifth grade.

Summary

- Music strengthens children's ability to comprehend logical thinking and creative thinking.
- Forms bonds among family members.
- Encourages memory retention.

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