

2. Nopalito (by Tara Scheyer)

This was a little clapping song I made up to sing to Felix during meals. He was just a few months old and was more interested in throwing food than eating it. So for a distraction I'd stomp the floor and he'd stomp the foot rest on the highchair and we'd both clap clap clap and sing sing sing and eventually he'd chew chew chew.

He didn't really start talking early, but once he started, he jumped in head-first. I was amazed that he learned to count to 10 so quickly (yes, you'll have to indulge me some "he's SO amazing!" stories) so I added words to our little clapping song about a boy who was so tiny, but could already count so big. He recorded the counting parts (English AND Spanish) before he turned 2. By the time I finished it- about 4 months later- he could sing the entire song, so he got added to the choruses. The other lovely kid voices on this one are my good friend and piano student, Maya Rubio (with the wonderful spanish accent) and the Horseman girls. Lynn & Shawn are dear friends of ours, and their daughters, Kenzie and Chloe, are terrific friends to Felix. Particularly Chloe, who is always looking for an excuse to hang out with him. She's a pretty special 8-yr-old to make time for a boring little 2-yr-old. It was Chloe & Felix singing along to an early version of Nopalito from the back seat on our way to Crafty Plaster one day that gave me the idea to add kid voices in the first place.

NOPALITO

intro: A E, A A E A

V1

A D A A E A

Nopa was a little little boy. Nopa came from a little town.

A D A A E A

Nopa had a little little voice, but he did not let his little get him down.

CHORUS (same chords as intro):

Nopa, Nopa, Nopa, Nopalito, Nopa, Nopa, Nopa, Nopalito

Nopa, Nopa, Nopa, Nopalito, Nopa, Nopa, Nopa, Nopalito

V2 A D A A E A

There were 10 little words that he could say, 10 little words to sing outloud.

A D A A E A

10 little words to make him feel like the biggest little little boy around:

C# B A G# F# E D C# B A D E A A

One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten!

CHORUS

Felix: Ha ha- I did it!

Chloe: Good job, Felix. That was great!

Felix: Thanks Chloe!

V3

Nopa sleeps in a little bed, he prays the Lord his soul to keep.

And when he lays down his little head you can hear him count himself to sleep

Uno, Dos, Tres, Quatro, Cinco, Sies, Siete, Ocho, Nueve, Dies!

CHORUS

Felix: Yay!

Maya: Muy bien, Felix

Felix: Thanks, Maya. Muchas gracias!

V4

Nopa raises up his little head. Nopa stretches his little arms out.

Nopa stands up tall and he says with the biggest little little voice around:

One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten!

Last Chorus:

There were 10 little words that he could say

Nopa, Nopa, Nopa, Nopalito

10 little words to sing outloud

Nopa, Nopa, Nopa, Nopalito

10 little words to make him feel

Nopa, Nopa, Nopa, Nopalito

Like the biggest little little boy around

Nopa, Nopa, Nopa, Nopalito

Shawn: Awesome!

Felix: We did it!

Chloe: You were good.

Felix: Yay Chloe!

Kenzie: Good job, Chloe.

Chloe: Awesome, Mackenzie!

Felix: Good job, Kenzie! Maya rocks!

Cecilia: Ffff! Ffff!

Felix: CC is so happy for me!

Cecilia: Happy!

Felix: Yay Cecilia! I'm so proud.