

Music for Kindergarten at Home & School



Thank you for your interest in my work!

Here is a brief sample from my traditional music curriculum series, *Our Music Garden*. This is one complete month of the nine monthly lessons from the kindergarten volume, *Seedlings*.

Seedlings is designed so that you can weave music into your classroom/homeschool routines with ease and focus on kindergarten music skills following a Kodaly methodology - i.e. perception of fast and slow, high and low, loud and soft, short and long, same and different, smooth and choppy. Each month has a different theme and musical focus with one verse/rhyme, two songs, a brief story, a craft, a recipe, and ideas for incorporating nature study.

The complete book includes sections on the pedagogy method, teaching music for the non-musician, elements of a music lesson, finding the singing voice, how to teach a song, and a brief yearly overview by concept/skill focus. Additionally, you'll find suggested albums and artists for family/classroom listening, a list of additional resources, a chart of note values, musical symbols and more as well as a glossary of musical terms used in the complete series.

All together, it is nearly 100 pages, 18 mp3s, and online access to video of every verse and song. I hope you enjoy it!

Sincerely,

Kimberly

Our Music Garden

Seedlings

Music for Kindergarten at Home & School

Kimberly Parsons

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For more music education resources, visit www.HearthandGnome.com.

Sunshine Days

This month, you will focus on fast and slow and loud and soft in addition to continuing to work on steady beat. Whenever you are singing or chanting, make beat motions and encourage your child to join you. They can also create their own beat motions and you can imitate them.

"The Sun Shines Hot"

Get some movement and motor skills work in with this one by passing bean bags on the beat. With just one child, play a game of catch. With more than one, you can pass around the circle. If your child/ren master this simple pass quickly, you can make the passing game more complex by passing more than one beanbag or giving *each person* a beanbag. Everyone begins with the beanbag in their left hand holding right hand palm up in front of them. On the first beat, each person passes their beanbag to *their own waiting right hand*. On the next beat, they pass the beanbag to their neighbor's left as they receive a beanbag from the other neighbor in their left hand. This can be quite tricky for kindergartners!

*The sun shines hot,
The wind blows cold,
Sun shining ever since I was one day old!
Shines in the East,
Shines in the West,
Shines on the baby my mama loves best!*

"Sunshine"

Sunshine

K. Parsons

Sun - shine, sun - shine, hot as it can be!

5
Shin - ing on the tree - tops, shin - ing right on me!

Sunshine

K. Parsons

G D G D B B A A B
Sun - shine, sun - shine, hot as it can be!

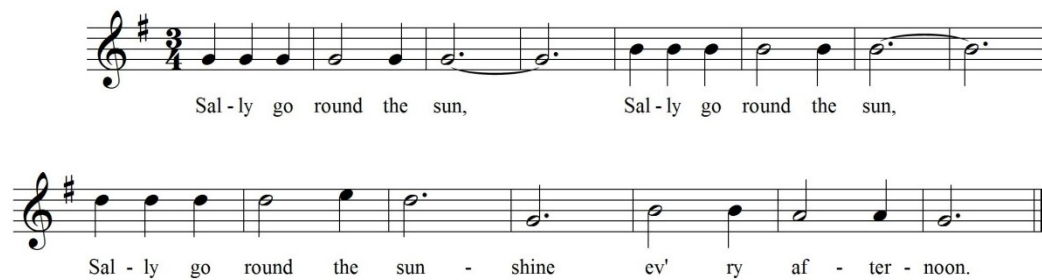
5
G G D D G D B B A A G
Shin - ing on the tree - tops, shin - ing right on me!

"Sally Go Round the Sun"

Join hands and move in a circle. On “Boom!” jump and clap. Work toward *thinking the song silently*, jumping and clapping together at the end. This helps your child develop (, an essential element of musicianship.

Sally Go Round the Sun

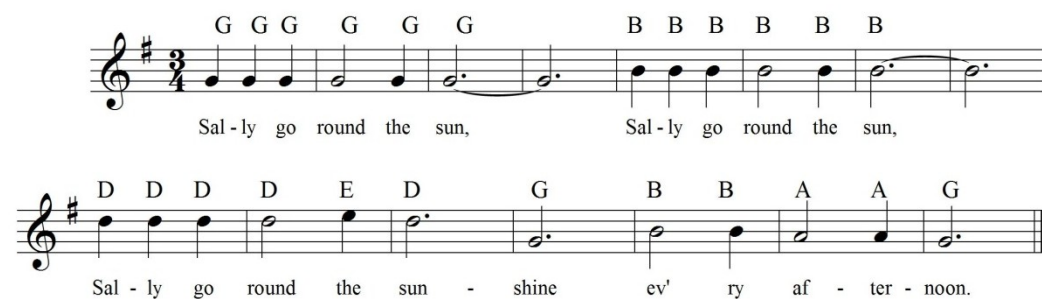
Traditional



Sal - ly go round the sun, Sal - ly go round the sun,
Sal - ly go round the sun - shine ev' ry af - ter - noon.

Sally Go Round the Sun

Traditional



Sal - ly go round the sun, Sal - ly go round the sun,
Sal - ly go round the sun - shine ev' ry af - ter - noon.

Story: A Day at the Pond

It was a hot day in the forest and Feathertail and Blackberry, two squirrel brothers, were trying to stay cool. It was shady inside their oak tree nest, but they were tired of staying indoors. They decided to visit the cool, blue pond down the hill. Round and round and down and down they raced to the shady grass below. It was much cooler there in the oak tree's shade in the light breeze.

The squirrels scampered quickly down to the pond's edge, admiring the dark blue water. Though it had been exceptionally warm, the grasses at the water's edge were tall and green. Feathertail decided to go wading. "Don't go in too far!" said Blackberry. "You can't swim!"

"I'll be fine!" answered Feathertail, picking his way deeper into the water. "Come on in!" Blackberry tiptoed to the edge of the pond and put his toes in.

Just then, something popped out of the center of the pond! "Eeek!" said Blackberry. Feathertail was so surprised he tumbled right into the water. He hopped up quickly and raced to the bank, sopping wet. As he stood there, spluttering and wringing out his tail, Blackberry began to giggle. Someone else was giggling, too!

"It's Shelby!" said Blackberry. Feathertail wiped the last of the water from his eyes and saw that it was their turtle friend, Shelby. She had been hibernating and they hadn't seen her in awhile. The brothers were happy to see her - even if she did give them a scare! They spent the rest of the hot day wading and splashing in the pond and admiring Shelby's fine swimming.

Painted Sun

Fingerpaint paper

Tempera paint or finger paint in sunny shades

Wide brushes, optional

Dinner plate

Pencil

Safety scissors

Clear-drying glue stick

Cover your fingerpaint paper with sunny shades of paint. Let dry. Trace dinner-plate sized circles and cut out. To make best use of your paper, trace as close to one end as possible! From the remaining paper, cut out rays. Glue the rays to the back side of the sun.



Sunflower Seed Bread

1 ⅓ c. water

2 T. butter, softened

3 T. honey

1 t. active dry yeast

1 ½ c. bread flour

1 ⅓ c. whole wheat flour

1 t. salt

½ c. unsalted sunflower seeds (or more if you like a lot of seeds)

In a large mixing bowl, combine 1 cup of the bread flour and the yeast and set aside. Heat water, butter, honey, and salt on low heat until butter almost melts. Remove from heat, stir to melt butter, and allow to cool slightly. Add to flour/yeast mixture. Beat with an electric mixer for about 30 seconds, scraping sides of bowl constantly. Beat on high speed for 2-3 minutes. Stir in the seeds, whole wheat flour, and as much of the remaining bread flour as you can.

Turn dough onto lightly floured surface and knead for about 6-8 minutes, until dough is moderately stiff and elastic. Form into a ball and place in lightly greased bowl, turning once to grease the surface of the bowl. Cover and let rise in a warm place until it has doubled in size.

Punch the dough down and turn out on a lightly floured surface once more. Form a loaf by rolling or patting, then place in prepared pans. Cover and let rise again in a warm place until nearly doubled once more.

Bake at 375°F for 30-40 minutes or until bread sounds hollow when tapped lightly. Immediately remove bread from pan and allow to cool completely on a wire rack.

Nature Exploration

This month, observe the position of the sun at various times during the day. Where does it appear and disappear each day? What are is your family doing each day when the sun appears and disappears? A detailed lesson on astronomy is *not* necessary at this time - allow your child to wonder and to observe.

Notice shadows at different times of day. If you have a large tree in your yard, check the shadow it casts in the morning, at midday and just before sunset. You can have additional shadow fun creating shadow sculptures outdoors stacking various items to create interesting shadows on the ground.

You can also talk about temperature this month. Again, avoid technical discussion , just allow your child to experience changing temperature throughout the day and talk about how it affects our clothing choices and activities. These simple explorations, observations, experiences, and conversations about relationships between our environment and how we feel and act are the work of kindergarten.

