

GRADE 1 - SONGS, CHANTS, ACTIVITIES & CONCEPTS

We will do a selection from the songs below.

The items are listed in the order they were taught, with the earliest at the top.

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL (song)

Welcome back to school, welcome back to school,
Can you clap and count to 8, can you clap and count to 8.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

BEAT, BEAT, FEEL THE BEAT (chant)

Beat, Beat, feel the beat.
Say hello to those you meet.
Hello _____. (class echoes) Hello _____.

MOUNTAINTOP MONSTER (chant) – [click here](#) for recording

On a mountaintop high above the sea sat a great big monster in a great big tree.
It had great big ankles and great big knees, and great big elbows, and a great big sneeze.
It was how big? Great big! It was how big? Great big!

It had a great big nose, and a great big chin, and great big teeth and a great big grin.
It was how big? Great big! It was how big? Great big!

It had great big eyes, and great big feet and a great big belly and it only liked to eat,
Jelly this, jelly that all day. "I love jelly!" you could hear it say.
"I put jelly on my lettuce, jelly on my beans, jelly on my hair and jelly on my jeans."

On a mountaintop high above the sea sat a teeny tiny monster in a teeny tiny tree.
It had teeny tiny ankles and teeny tiny knees, and teeny tiny elbows, and a teeny tiny sneeze.
It was how tiny? Teeny tiny! It was how tiny? Teeny tiny!

It had a teeny tiny nose, and a teeny tiny chin, and teeny tiny teeth and a teeny tiny grin.
It was how tiny? Teeny tiny! It was how tiny? Teeny tiny!

It had teeny tiny eyes, and teeny tiny feet and a teeny tiny belly and it only liked to eat,
Jelly this, jelly that all day. "I love jelly!" you could hear it say. "I put jelly on my lettuce, jelly on my beans, jelly on my hair and jelly on my jeans."

3 LITTLE FISHIES (finger play – high, medium, low)

3 little fishies swimming in the sea. Along came a shark as quiet as can be.
The biggest fishy said, "you can't catch me." SNAP!

2 little fishies swimming in the sea. Along came a shark as quiet as can be.
The medium fishy said, "you can't catch me." SNAP!

1 little fishy swimming in the sea. Along came a shark as quiet as can be.
The smallest fishy said, "you can't catch me." SNAP!

Say 3 times, each time a bit louder:

Smallest Fishy: "Missed me, missed me, now you 'gotta kiss me. "

Shark: "I do not kiss fish! I eat fish! That is ridiculous!"

The smallest fishy kisses the shark, and they both 'run'/swim away!

I THINK MUSIC'S NEAT (poem & game)

YouTube video - <https://youtu.be/Ex577ZvMvKk>

I think music's neat, I can keep a steady beat: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

(Student's name) thinks music neat (s)he can keep a steady beat: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

NO MORE PIE (echo song)

YouTube video - https://youtu.be/q_BjuDRNLIA

Oh my. (oh my)
No more pie. (No more pie)
Pie's too sweet. (Pie's too sweet)
I want a piece of meat. (I want a piece of meat)
Meat's too red. (Meat's too red)
I want a piece of bread. (I want a piece of bread)
Bread's too brown. (Bread's too brown)
I think I'll go to town. (I think I'll go to town)
Town's too far. (Town's too far)
I think I'll drive my car. (I think I'll drive my car)
Car won't go. (Car won't go)
I think I hurt my toe. (I think I hurt my toe).
Toe is a pain. (Toe is a pain)
I think I'll take the train. (I think I'll take a train)
Train was in a wreck. (Train was in a wreck)
I think I hurt my neck. (I think I hurt my neck)
Oh my. (oh my)
No more pie.

FROG IN THE MEADOW (song)

YouTube video - <https://youtu.be/YLVlwOlaCP8>

Frog in the meadow, can't get him out.

Take a little stick and stir him about.

TURKEY AND DUCK (drama / poem / finger-play)

One day a turkey went for a walk.

Along came a duck and they had a little talk:

Turkey: Gobble, gobble, gobble.

Duck: Quack, quack, quack.

Turkey: Goodbye!

Duck: Goodbye!

And they both went back.

I'M THANKFUL (song)

I'm glad I have two hands that clap. (*clap 8 times*) 2x

I'm glad I have two hands that clap, I'm sure that you'll agree. (*clap 2 times*)

I'm so thankful for all I have. Every day it makes me feel glad.

All I do, and all I see makes me so happy that I'm me.

I'm glad I have..... (*clap 8 times*) 2x

I'm glad I have....., I'm sure that you'll agree. (*clap 2 times*)

I'm so thankful for all I have. Every day it makes me feel glad.

All I do, and all I see makes me so happy that I'm me.

MONKEY, MONKEY (poem – practicing proper playing technique on the barred instruments)

See the monkey in the tree (boing, boing, boing, boing)
Looking down at you and me (boing, boing, boing, boing)
Funny little chimpanzee (boing, boing, boing, boing)
Make me laugh, “tee-hee-hee” (boing, boing, boing, boing)

COOKIE JAR (song and steady beat game)

Zoom, zoom, zoom.

My heart goes kaboom!

Who stole the cookies from the cookie jar?

(student's name) stole the cookies from the cookie jar!

Student B: Who me?!

Class: Yes, you!

Student B: Couldn't be!

Class: Then who?

SING ME YOUR NAME (game) -->We haven't done this in 2020/2021

YouTube video - <https://youtu.be/rdXr6Yh47Vs>

Person A: Sing me your name.

Person B: My name is _____.

THE KING OF FRANCE (poem, movement, Orff instruments-glissando)

The King of France went up the hill with forty-thousand men.

The King of France went down the hill and never went up again.

He went up, he went up, he went up, up, up!

He went down, he went down, he went down, down, down.

THE DARK HOUSE (dramatic poem) (dynamics – loud / soft)

ff In a dark, dark wood there was a dark, dark house.

f And in that dark, dark house, there was a dark, dark room.

mf And in that dark, dark room, there was a dark, dark cupboard.

mp And in that dark, dark cupboard, there was a dark, dark shelf.

P And on that dark, dark shelf, there was a dark, dark box.

pp And in that dark, dark box, there was a...

fff GHOST!

Dynamics (loud vs quiet)

p = piano = quiet

mp = mezzo piano = medium quiet

pp = pianissimo = very quiet

ppp = pianississimo = very, very quiet

f = forte = loud

mf = mezzo forte = medium loud

ff = fortissimo = very loud

fff = fortississimo = very, very loud

PEER GYNT – IN THE HALL OF THE MOUNTAIN KING

[Slide show](#) with different activities for “In the Hall of the Mountain King”

Composition by Edvard Grieg

Explanation: I told the story about a boy from Norway named Peter (although in Norway, they pronounced it Pe'er). This boy was mischievous, and had heard about some trolls that lived in a cave in the mountains, who had gold. So Peter hatched a plan where he went up to the mountain, befriended the trolls. Then when they were playing together, but weren't paying attention to Peter, he snuck out to find their treasure. After a little while, the trolls noticed that Peter was missing, so they went looking for him. That is when they figured out what Peter was up to. When they found Peter, they began chasing him all around, trying to catch him. At the end, Peter escapes, but just barely!

FIVE LITTLE PUMPKINS - we sing the song while sitting with actions. Then we act it out.

Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate.

The first one said, "Oh my, it's getting late."

The second one said, "There are witches in the air."

The third one said, "But we don't care!"

The fourth one said, "Let's run and run and run."

The fifth one said, "We're ready for some."

"Oo-oo," went the wind, and OUT went the lights.

And the five little pumpkins rolled out of sight.

THE SHIP (poem with instruments used to create sound effects)

The ship goes sailing on the sea.

It sails for you and it sails for me.

The waves go up, the waves go down.

The waves go rolling all around.

And the lightning flash! And the thunder crash!

And the ship...the ship.....the ship...the ship.....it sank!

WHAT CAN WE BE TODAY - A movement game

What can we be today?

Show me, show me.

What can we be today?

Let's find out!

GOING ON A BEAR HUNT

Going on a bear hunt.

Echo: Going on a bear hunt.

'Gonna catch a big one.

Echo: 'Gonna catch a big one.

I'm not scared!

Echo: I'm not scared!

What a beautiful day.

Echo: What a beautiful day.

Uh oh. There's grass. Long wavy grass.

Can't go over it.

Can't go under it.

Guess we'll have to go through it.

UP, UP DOWN - Instrument activity with the book by Robert Munsch - [click here for the slideshow](#)

COQUI, COQUI (song with Orff instruments) coqui = frog

Coqui, coqui (echo : coqui, coqui)

Little frog in the tree (echo : little frog in the tree)

Coqui, coqui (echo : coqui, coqui)

Are you hiding from me?(echo : are you hiding from me?)

I can hear your song. (echo: I can hear your song)

As I walk along (echo: As I walk along)

You call out to me (echo: You call out to me)

But where can you be? (echo: But where can you be?)

Coqui, coqui (echo : coqui, coqui)

Coqui, coqui (echo : coqui, coqui)

MONDAY, MONDAY (movement song)

Monday, Monday, the first day is Monday.

What shall we do on Monday?.....We (*action here*)

Lai, lai.....

Do a different action for each day of the week.

I HOPE I GET A LETTER (song & game)

I hope I get a letter, a letter, a letter.

I hope I get a letter this valentine.

I hope I get a letter, a letter, a letter.

I hope I get a letter saying you'll be mine.

YouTube video <https://youtu.be/8dxeycqBhS4>

This is a classroom of children singing this song. They aren't doing the game and their words are **slightly** different, but the melody is the same.

THE CAT IS IN THE SNOW (song)

Oh, oh, oh, the cat is in the snow.

She puts her snowy leggings on as soon as she begins to run.

Oh deary-o, oh deary-o, the cat is in the snow.

SNOWFLAKES (a soh-mi-lah song with Orff instruments for sound effects)

Snowflakes, snowflakes, look at all the snowflakes.

Twirling round, not a sound, gently floating to the ground.

PEASE PORRIDGE HOT (a poem, introducing the quarter rest)

Pease porridge hot.

Pease porridge cold.

Pease porridge in the pot

Nine days old.

Some like it hot.

Some like it cold.

Some like it in the pot

Nine days old.

BOW, WOW, WOW (song / movement / orchestration – xylophones & glockenspiels)

Bow, wow, wow.

Whose dog art thou?

Little Tommy Tucker's dog.

Bow, wow, wow. WOOF!

YouTube video - <https://youtu.be/Kx5orvkG4A8>

This isn't exactly the same game we play, but it is similar.

CHOOK, CHOOK (song / movement / orchestration – xylophones & glockenspiels)

Chook, chook, chook, chook, good morning Mrs. Hen.

How many chickens have you got? Madam I've got ten.

Four of them are yellow, and four of them are brown.

And two of them are speckled red, the nicest in the town!

An **ostinato** is a repeated pattern
that is performed with a poem or song.