

KidsTalk

ONLINE WORKSHOPS

TRANSITION SONGS

Willabee Wallabee Wee

This is great song to use to help move children from one activity to another. When they hear their name, for example, they might move from group time to go wash their hands or out to recess. At home, it is a good song to grab a child's attention when you finish up one activity like reading a book, then getting into bed.

Willabee Wallabee Wee
An elephant sat on me

Willabee Wallabee Woo
An elephant sat on you

Willabee wallabee wam
An elephant sat on Sam

Willabee wallabee Wobin
An elephant sat on Robin

Mary Wore Her Red Dress

Start out with the first verse then add children's names and an item of clothing.

In a group setting, the child whose name is called can skip around the inside or the outside of the circle, then return to his or her spot in the circle.

To move from one activity to another, change all day long to "off to lunch", "back to work", "home from school", etc.

For a listening exercise, leave out the child's name and just do the item of clothing. The children will have to pay attention to pick up their clue.

Be sure to sing everybody's name in the group, or you will have tears.

Mary wore her red dress, red dress red dress
Mary wore her red dress, all day long

Johnny wore his blue jeans, blue jeans blue jeans
Johnny wore his blue jeans, out to play

Hum – hum wore her overalls, overalls, overalls
Hum – hum wore her overalls, home from school

This is the Way

Use your imagination to use this song to go from one activity to another.

This is the way we get ready for lunch
Ready for lunch, ready for lunch
This is the way we get ready for lunch
In our home (school)

First we put away our work
Away our work, away our work
This is the way we get ready for lunch
In our home

This is the way we wash our hands
Wash our hands, wash our hands
This is the way we get ready for lunch
In our home

This is the way we set the table,
Set the table, set the table
This is the way we get ready for lunch
In our home

This is the way we sit at the table
Sit at the table, sit at the table
This is the way we get ready for lunch
In our home.

This is the way we say our prayers
Say our prayers, say our prayers
This is the way we get ready for lunch
In our home

Use this song for getting ready for bed:

This is the way we get ready for bed...

Brush our teeth, wash our faces, put on our jammies, get in to bed, turn of the lights, say good night, etc.

These are songs that will help quiet down children so you can move from a high energy activity to a quiet activity.

Pan Yoo

Taiwanese Song

Pan yoo, woh yung yune chu fu ni
Pan yoo, woh yung yune chu fu ni

Chu fu ni gen khan
Chu fu ni quai leh

Pan yoo, woh yung yune chu fu ni

Friends forever we'll be friends
Friends forever we'll be friends

I'll be your friend
You'll be my friend
Friends forever we'll be friends

The Spiders Are Creeping

Use hand movements with your fingers walking up your arm, then use your fingers to make the Sh! motion.

The spiders are creeping, Sh! Sh!
The spiders are creeping, Sh! Sh!
They don't make a sound as their feet touch the ground
The spiders are creeping, Sh! Sh!

The mice are creeping, Sh! Sh!
The mice are creeping, Sh! Sh!

They don't make a sound as their feet touch the ground
The mice are creeping, Sh! Sh!

Sara, what did you see creeping? A cat!

The cat is creeping, Sh! Sh!
The cat is creeping, Sh! Sh!
She doesn't make a sound as her feet touch the ground
The cat is creeping, Sh! Sh!

The Name Sound Song

This is a good song to help gather a group. Be sure to sing everybody's name, twice.

Alice, Alice, a, a, a
Alice, Alice, a, a, a

Jim, Jim, j, j, j
Jim, Jim, j, j, j

Tiffany, Tiffany, t, t, t,
Tiffany, Tiffany, t, t, t

Alexander, Alexander, a, a, a,
Alexander, Alexander, a, a, a

Sharon, Sharon, sh, sh, sh
Sharon, Sharon, sh, sh, sh

Mother Looney Bird

This is a song that requires a lot of movement. At the end, it is perfect just to collapse and sit cross-legged, ready to go to a quiet activity. On rainy days, I like to follow this with the next song, "It Rained a Mist", which is also a good car song.

Mother Looney Bird had seven chicks
Seven chicks had Mother Looney bird

They couldn't swim, no.
They couldn't fly, no
All they could do was go like this. (right arm)

Tuck right arm and flap in wing position

Mother Looney Bird had seven chicks
Seven chicks had Mother Looney bird
They couldn't swim, no.
They couldn't fly, no
All they could do was go like this. (left arm)

Tuck left arm and flap in wing position.

Repeat verse adding these directions and additional movements.

*Right leg. Move right leg, lifting knee high.
Left leg. Move left leg, lifting knee high.
Your head. Move chin to chest and back.*

Turn around. While doing leg, arm and head motions, turn around.

The end song with

All they could do was go like this. Whew.

Wipe your brow and sit down.

It Rained a Mist

It rained a mist, it rained a mist
It rained all over the town, the town
It rained all over the town.

It rained a mist, it rained a mist
It rained all over my car, my car,
It rained all over my car.
Frank, where did you see it rain? On my house. On the road. On the grass.
On my head.

Ask each child in the group where they saw the rain.

Clap, Clap, Clap Your Hands

This song can keep going until everybody in the group is quieted down. Also works for just one child. This song is also excellent for children who are learning English as a second language.

Clap, clap, clap your hands
Clap your hands together
Clap, clap, clap your hands
Clap your hands together.

Touch your toes.
Wiggle your fingers.
Blink your eyes.
Touch your ears.
Move your nose.
Tap your toes.
Shake your head.
Sit right down.

Clean Up Song

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine,
Let's finish up. It's clean up time.

Use this song for all kinds of activities.

It's go to school time. It's off to bed time. It's brush your hair time.

Kids Talk Hint

A bit of advice: I've learned through many years of working with young children that when you sing a song with them, be prepared to sing it at least three times through.

This also goes for reading a book. Be prepared to read it three times in a row. It is boring to us, but the children love it. So, pick out short books to read. And avoid a few power struggles.