

MONTESSORI MUSIC RESOURCE GUIDE:

*Songs for the
Prepared Environment*



MARIA JOHNSON

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GATHERING & COMMUNITY

GOOD MORNING	5
NAME SONG (ALL DAY LONG)	5
HAPPY BIRTHDAY (JESUS VERSE)	6
THIS IS MY SCHOOL	6
LOVE GROWS ONE BY ONE	6

TRANSITIONS & ROUTINES

WIGGLE MY FINGERS	7
IF YOU CAN HEAR ME	7

FINGERPLAYS

KNOCK KNOCK	8
HERE IS A BUNNY	8
JACK IN THE BOX	9
PIECE OF POPCORN	9
GRANDMA'S SPECTACLES	9
PEA POD PRESSED	10

GENERAL & FAMILIAR

I'M A LITTLE TEAPOT	10
ALICE THE CAMEL	11
DO YOUR EARS HANG LOW?	11
OPEN THEM, SHUT THEM	12
FIVE LITTLE DUCKS	13
FIVE LITTLE PIGS	14
FIVE GREEN AND SPECKLED FROGS	15

VIRTUES

TWINKLE TWINKLE (HANDWASHING SONG)	16
TRY TRY TRY YOUR BEST	16

SEASONAL

THE SEASONS

I'M A TREE IN AUTUMN 17

FALL

APPLE TREE 17

A-P-P-L-E 18

COME RAKE A GIANT PILE OF LEAVES 18

FALL / FIRE SAFETY

FIRE! FIRE! FIRE! FIRE! 19

NEVER NEVER PLAY WITH MATCHES 19

FALL / THANKSGIVING

THANKSGIVING TABLE 20

ADVENT

LIGHT ONE CANDLE 20

WINTER

A SLEDDING WE WILL GO 21

A CHUBBY LITTLE SNOWMAN 21

LOVE & FRIENDSHIP

SKIDAMARINK 22

IF I WERE A VALENTINE 22

TEETH

I HAVE A WIGGLY TOOTH 23

SPRING

COME BACK ROBINS 24

LITTER IS GARBAGE 24

SILLY

MAMA WILL YOU BUY ME A BANANA 25

DOWN BY THE BAY 26

MOVEMENT

ALIVE AWAKE ALERT ENTHUSIASTIC 27

TEMPO 28

THE ELEVATOR SONG 29

CALL & RESPONSE

DID YOU FEED MY COW? 29

PEACE

LIGHT A CANDLE FOR PEACE 30

LIKE A RIPPLE ON THE WATER 30

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD 30

GENTLE HANDS 30

CATHOLIC

LIGHT OF THE WORLD 31

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD 31

WORLD

THE CONTINENT SONG 32

THE OCEAN SONG 32

LET'S FLY AROUND THE WORLD 33

JAMBO 33

A RAM SAM SAM 33

FAREWELL

SING YOUR WAY HOME 34

GATHERING & COMMUNITY

GOOD MORNING

— TRADITIONAL —

Good morning, good morning

Good morning to you

Good morning, good morning

And how do you do?

How do you do?

How do you do?

How do you do today?

I'll shake your hand

And smile and say

How do you do today?

NAME SONG (ALL DAY LONG)

— TRADITIONAL/TUNE UNKNOWN —

Lyla Lyla Lyla Lyla

Lyla Lyla

All day long

Lyla Lyla Lyla Lyla

How do you like my Lyla song?

GATHERING & COMMUNITY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY (JESUS VERSE)

— WORDS BY MARIA JOHNSON / TUNE: HAPPY BIRTHDAY —

We celebrate your birth
Your place on the earth
And each day of the year
May you feel Jesus near
Happy birthday to you ...
May God bless you ...

THIS IS MY SCHOOL

— SANFORD JONES —

[\[Listen on SoundCloud\]](#)

LOVE GROWS ONE BY ONE

— CAROL JOHNSON —

[\[Watch on YouTube\]](#)

TRANSITIONS & ROUTINES

WIGGLE MY FINGERS

— TRADITIONAL —

I wiggle my fingers

I wiggle my toes

I wiggle my shoulders

I wiggle my nose

Till no more wiggles are left in me

And I'm as quiet as quiet can be

IF YOU CAN HEAR ME

— TRADITIONAL —

If you can hear me

Clap two times

If you can hear me

Tap one time

If you can hear me

Snap four times

If you can hear me

Sit so still

FINGERPLAYS

KNOCK KNOCK

— TRADITIONAL —

Knock knock (*Knock on forehead*)

Peek in (*Open eyes*)

Open the latch (*Lift nose*)

And walk right in (*Walk fingers towards mouth*)

How do you do (*Wiggle chin*)

Mr. Chinny Chin Chin

HERE IS A BUNNY

— TRADITIONAL —

Here is a bunny with ears so funny
(*Make bunny fingers & wiggle them*)

And here is his burrow in the ground
(*Put hand on hip to make a circle*)

When a noise he hears he perks up his ears
(*Straighten bunny ears quickly*)

And he runs to his burrow in the ground
(*Run bunny ears to hole*)

FINGERPLAYS

JACK IN THE BOX

— TRADITIONAL —

Jack in the box (*Tuck body into a small ball*)

Sits so still

Won't you come out (*Turn arm, as if turning a crank*)

Yes I will! (*Pop up and put arms in the air*)

PIECE OF POPCORN

— TRADITIONAL —

I'm a piece of popcorn

Put me in the pot

Shake me, shake me (*Shake your body*)

As fast as you can

Then I will pop! (*Throw arms in the air*)

GRANDMA'S SPECTACLES

— TRADITIONAL —

Here are grandma's spectacles

And here is grandma's hat

And here's the way she folds her hands

And puts them in her lap

FINGERPLAYS

PEA POD PRESSED

— TRADITIONAL —

Five fat peas in a pea pod pressed (*Hold one hand in a tight fist*)

One grew and two grew (*Pop up your thumb, then index finger*)

And so did all the rest (*Pop open all remaining fingers*)

They grew and they grew (*Stretch your arms wide apart*)

And they did not stop (*Continue stretching arms*)

Until one day that pea pod...

Popped! (*Clap!*)

GENERAL & FAMILIAR

I'M A LITTLE TEAPOT

— TRADITIONAL —

I'm a little teapot

Short and stout

Here is my handle (*Put hand on hip*)

Here is my spout (*Extend other hand up as a spout*)

When I get all steamed up (*Shake body*)

Hear me shout

Just tip me over (*Lean over*)

And pour me out

GENERAL & FAMILIAR

ALICE THE CAMEL

— TRADITIONAL —

Alice the camel has three humps

Alice the camel has three humps

Alice the camel has three humps

So ride, Sally, ride

Boom boom boom

Repeat with two humps, one hump

Alice the camel has no humps

Alice the camel has no humps

Alice the camel has no humps

Cuz Alice is a horse

Of course!

DO YOUR EARS HANG LOW?

— TRADITIONAL —

Do your ears hang low?

Do they wobble to and fro? (*Wave hands back and forth by ears*)

Can you tie them in a knot? (*Pretend to tie a knot*)

Can you tie them in a bow? (*Pretend to tie a bow*)

Can you throw them over your shoulder (*Toss hands over shoulder*)

Like a continental soldier? (*Stand tall and salute*)

Do your ears hang low?

GENERAL & FAMILIAR

OPEN THEM, SHUT THEM

— TRADITIONAL —

Open them, shut them

Open them, shut them

Give your hands a clap clap clap

Open them, shut them

Open them, shut them

Put them in your lap

Roll them, roll them

Roll them, roll them

Roll them just like this

Wave them, wave them

Wave them, wave them

Blow a little kiss

GENERAL & FAMILIAR

FIVE LITTLE DUCKS

— TRADITIONAL —

Five little ducks went out one day

Over the hills and far away

Mama duck said, “Quack quack quack quack”

But only four little ducks came back

Repeat with four, three, two, one

(More slowly)

Sad mother duck went out one day

Over the hills and far away

Daddy duck said, “Quack quack quack quack” *(loudly)*

And all of the five little ducks came back

(And the children always say: “AND the Mama”)

GENERAL & FAMILIAR

FIVE LITTLE PIGS

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: FIVE LITTLE DUCKS —

Five little pigs rolled in the mud
Squishy squashy felt so good
The farmer took one piggy out
“Oink oink oink,” that pig did shout!

Repeat with four, three, two, one

No little pigs rolled in the mud
They all looked so clean and good
The farmer turned his back and then
The pigs rolled in the mud again

GENERAL & FAMILIAR

FIVE GREEN AND SPECKLED FROGS

— TRADITIONAL —

Five green and speckled frogs

Sitting on a speckled log

Eating the most delicious bugs

YUM YUM!

One jumped into the pool

Where it was nice and cool

Then there were four green speckled frogs

RIBBIT RIBBIT

Repeat with four, three, two, one

On the last time, say GLUB GLUB

VIRTUES

TWINKLE TWINKLE (HANDWASHING SONG)

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: TWINKLE TWINKLE —

Twinkle twinkle little star
Look how clean my two hands are
Soap and water, wash and scrub
Get those germs off
Rub a dub dub
Twinkle twinkle little star
Look how clean my two hands are

TRY TRY TRY YOUR BEST

— WORDS BY PATTY BRECOUNT / TUNE: ROW ROW ROW YOUR BOAT —

Try try try your best
And believe you can
Everything is possible
If you think you can

SEASONAL

— THE SEASONS —

I'M A TREE IN AUTUMN

— TRADITIONAL —

I'm a tree in autumn (*Stretch arms over head*)

My leaves come falling down (*Let arms fall down*)

I'm a tree in winter (*Wrap arms around body, as if cold*)

I have no leaves at all

I'm a tree in springtime (*Fingers begin to outstretch*)

My buds can just be seen

I'm a tree in summer (*Stretch arms over head*)

And I'm full of leaves of green

SEASONAL

— FALL —

APPLE TREE

(*Play with bean bags*)

Apple tree, apple tree

Will your apple fall on me

I won't cry, I won't shout

If your apple knocks me out

SEASONAL

— FALL —

A-P-P-L-E

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: BINGO —

I know a fruit and it was sweet (*sour, tart, etc.*)

And apple was its name-o

A-P-P-L-E, A-P-P-L-E

A-P-P-L-E and apple was its name-o

I know a fruit and it was sweet (*sour, tart, etc.*)

And apple was its name-o

Crunch-P-P-L-E, Crunch-P-P-L-E

Crunch-P-P-L-E and apple was its name-o

Repeat, continuing to replace letters with crunch

COME RAKE A GIANT PILE OF LEAVES

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: JOHN JACOB JINGLE HEIMER SCHMIDT —

Come rake a giant pile of leaves

In October when they fall

When leaves turn red and brown

With pumpkins all around

It's October in the fall

Da da da da da da

Repeat, more quietly each time

SEASONAL
— FALL / FIRE SAFETY —

FIRE! FIRE! FIRE! FIRE!

— TRADITIONAL —

Fire fire fire fire
Hear the sirens blowing
Fire fire fire fire
Everybody's going
Climb the ladder
Squirt the hose
With a sh sh sh sh
Out the fire goes!

NEVER NEVER PLAY WITH MATCHES

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: FRÈRE JACQUES —

Never never play with matches
If you do, if you do
You might burn your fingers (clothes)
You might burn your fingers (clothes)
That won't do, that won't do

SEASONAL

— FALL / THANKSGIVING —

THANKSGIVING TABLE

— TRADITIONAL —

Every day when we eat our dinner
Our table is this small
There's room for mommy and daddy
And baby that's all
But when Thanksgiving Day comes
You cannot believe your eyes
Our table stretches
Until it's this size!

SEASONAL & NATURE

— ADVENT —

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

— NATALIE SLEETH —

[\[Watch on YouTube\]](#)

SEASONAL

— WINTER —

A SLEDDING WE WILL GO

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: THE FARMER IN THE DELL —

A sledding we will go

A sledding we will go

We'll sit just right and hold on tight

And down the hill we'll go

Whee!

A CHUBBY LITTLE SNOWMAN

— TRADITIONAL —

A chubby little snowman (*Arms outstretched like a belly*)

Had a carrot nose (*Point to your nose*)

When along came a bunny (*Two fingers hop like a bunny*)

And what do you suppose (*Palms up, shrugging*)

That hungry little bunny (*Rub stomach*)

Looking for his lunch (*Hand at brow, looking*)

He ate the snowman's carrot nose (*Grab your nose*)

Nibble, nibble crunch!

SEASONAL
— LOVE & FRIENDSHIP —
SKIDAMARINK
— TRADITIONAL —

Skidamarink a-dink-a-dink

Skidamarink a-doo

I love you!

Skidamarink a-dink-a-dink

Skidamarink a-doo

I love you!

I love you in the morning

And in the afternoon

I love you in the evening

And in the afternoon, oh

Skidamarink a-dink-a-dink

Skidamarink a-doo

I love you!

IF I WERE A VALENTINE

— TRADITIONAL —

If I were a valentine

You know what I would do

I would JUMP into an envelope

And send my love to you! (*Point to a friend*)

SEASONAL

— TEETH —

I HAVE A WIGGLY TOOTH

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: FIVE GREEN AND SPECKLED FROGS —

I have a wiggly tooth
I think it's very loose
Wonder if I can pull it out
Oooh, ouch!
Maybe I'll wait a bit
That tooth's not ready yet
It wants to stay inside my mouth
For now!

SEASONAL

— SPRING —

COME BACK ROBINS

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: FRÈRE JACQUES —

Come back robins, come back robins
Spring is near, spring is near
Everyone is waiting, everyone is waiting
Your songs we want to hear
Your songs we want to hear

LITTER IS GARBAGE

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: WHEELS ON THE BUS —

Litter is garbage that wasn't thrown away
Wasn't thrown away, wasn't thrown away
Litter is garbage that wasn't thrown away
In the garbage can

I put my trash in the garbage can
The garbage can, the garbage can
I put my trash in the garbage can
I'm not a litterbug

SILLY

MAMA WILL YOU BUY ME A BANANA

— TRADITIONAL —

Oh Mama would you buy me a

Buy me a, buy me a

Oh Mama would you buy me a

Buy me a banana

*Yes my dear I'll buy you a**Buy you a, buy you a**Yes my dear I'll buy you a**Buy you a banana*

Oh Mama, would you peel the skin

Peel the skin, peel the skin

Oh Mama, will you peel the skin

The skin of my banana

*Yes, my dear, I'll peel the skin**Peel the skin, peel the skin**Yes, my dear, I'll peel the skin**The skin of your banana*

Oh Mama, would you like a bite

Like a bite, like a bite

Oh Mama, would you like a bite

A bite of my banana

*Yes, my dear, I'd like a bite**Like a bite, like a bite**Yes, my dear, I'd like a bite**A bite of your banana*

Oh Mama, you took too much

Took too much, took too much

Oh Mama, you took too much

You ate all my banana

*No, my dear, I left the skin**Left the skin, left the skin**No, my dear, I left the skin**The skin of your banana*

Oh Mama would you buy me a

Buy me a, buy me a

Oh Mama would you buy me a

Buy me a banana

*You didn't eat the other one**The other one, the other one**You didn't eat the other one**You'll have no more bananas*

SILLY

DOWN BY THE BAY

— TRADITIONAL —

Down by the bay
Where the watermelons grow
Back to my home
I dare not go
For if I do
My mother will say,
“Did you ever see a llama
Eating pajamas?”
Down by the bay

“Did you ever see a whale with a polka dot tail?”

“Did you ever see a fly wearing a tie?”

“Did you ever see a bear combing his hair?”

“Did you ever see a goose kissing a moose?”

“Did you ever have a time when you couldn’t make a rhyme?”

Keep the song going by creating your own rhyming verses!

MOVEMENT

ALIVE AWAKE ALERT ENTHUSIASTIC

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: IF YOU'RE HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT —

I'm alive awake alert enthusiastic

I'm alive awake alert enthusiastic

I'm alive awake alert

I'm alert awake alive

I'm alive awake alert enthusiastic

Actions:

Alive: Touch your head

Awake: Touch your shoulders

Alert: Cross your arms over your chest

Enthu: Slap your thighs

-si-: Clap your hands

-astic: Snap with both hands

MOVEMENT

TEMPO

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC —

We are marching to rhythm
We are marching to the beat
We are picking up our knees
And we are stomping down our feet
But the song keeps getting faster
With each verse that we repeat

The tempo marches on
Faster faster faster faster
Faster faster faster faster
Faster faster faster faster
The tempo marches on

MOVEMENT

THE ELEVATOR SONG

— TRADITIONAL —

Oh the city is great
Oh the city is grand
There are lots and lots of people
On a tiny piece of land
We live way up high on the 57th floor
And this is what we say when we walk out the door

Take the elevator up
Take the elevator down
Take the elevator up
Take the elevator down
Take the elevator up
Take the elevator down
Then we turn around

CALL & RESPONSE

DID YOU FEED MY COW?

— TRADITIONAL —

Traditional folk song, adapted by Ella Jenkins.
Listen to Ella Jenkins' version: [\[Watch on YouTube\]](#)

PEACE

LIGHT A CANDLE FOR PEACE

— SHELLEY MURLEY —

[\[Watch on YouTube\]](#)

PEACE

LIKE A RIPPLE ON THE WATER

— KIM AND JERRY BRODEY —

[\[Watch on YouTube\]](#)

PEACE

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

— ELLEN ALLARD —

[\[Watch on YouTube\]](#)

PEACE

GENTLE HANDS

— BARB TILSEN —

[\[Watch on YouTube\]](#)

CATHOLIC

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

— JAY STOCKER —

[\[Watch on YouTube\]](#)

CATHOLIC

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

— TRADITIONAL —

The Lord is my Shepherd
I'll walk with Him always
He knows me and He loves me
I'll walk with Him always

Always, always
I'll walk with Him always
Always, always
I'll walk with Him always

WORLD

THE CONTINENT SONG

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: FRÈRE JACQUES —

North America, South America
Two close lands, two close lands
Africa and Asia, Europe and Australia
Antarctica, Antarctica

THE OCEAN SONG

— TRADITIONAL / TUNE: YANKEE DOODLE —

There are five seas on our map
Whose waters give us fun
Their names are Pacific and Atlantic
And the Indian Ocean

In the north there is another
It is very cold
It's always filled with chunks of ice
The Arctic Sea, I'm told

Repeat the first verse

In the south there is another
It is very cold
It's always filled with chunks of ice
The Southern Sea, I'm told

WORLD

LET'S FLY AROUND THE WORLD

— SHELLEY MURLEY —

[\[Watch on YouTube\]](#)

WORLD

JAMBO

— ELLA JENKINS —

[\[Watch on YouTube\]](#)

WORLD

A RAM SAM SAM

— TRADITIONAL MOROCCAN SONG —

A ram sam sam, a ram sam sam

Guli guli guli guli guli, ram sam sam

A ram sam sam, a ram sam sam

Guli guli guli guli guli, ram sam sam

A rafi, a rafi

Guli guli guli guli guli, ram sam sam

A rafi, a rafi

Guli guli guli guli guli, ram sam sam

FAREWELL

SING YOUR WAY HOME

— TRADITIONAL —

Sing your way home
At the close of the day
Sing your way home
Drive the shadows away
Smile every mile
For wherever you roam
It will brighten your road
It will lighten your load
If you sing your way home

OTHER ARTISTS AND RESOURCES

[Songs for Teaching](#) - This website is heavily monetized now, but I have gotten many songs from here over the years!

Red Grammer - He has so many good songs, especially for singing with the oldest children in Children's House. I especially love *Teaching Peace* and *Circle of Light: Songs for Bucket Fillers*.

Tom Chapin - He has a lot of great music, especially his songs about the earth.

Raffi - Raffi is just a classic!

Shelley Murley - She is a Montessori artist. I especially love *Montessori Minute Melodies*.

Peter & Ellen Allard - They have great movement songs.

Susan Salidor - She has lots of movement songs, as well.

I have so much more I could share. Send me a message if you have questions or want more information!

© 2026 Maria Johnson | The Prepared Hearth. All rights reserved.

This resource is intended for personal and classroom use. You may print and use these materials in your own classroom or home, but may not reproduce, redistribute, sell, or share the resource in whole or in part without written permission.

Song lyrics, arrangements, and recordings credited to other creators remain the property of their respective copyright holders.