

Ride “Em High/The Cowpoke Song

by Marcy Marxer
from the “Jump Children” CD
available on iTunes - \$1.79

T-E-X-A-S

objective: recognize the state name/ develop inner hearing skills
tune: Bingo

We all live in this great big state
And Texas is it’s name-o.
T-E-X-A-S, T-E-X-A-S, T-E-X-A-S
Texas is it’s name-o.

Draw the state of Texas on a vinyl tablecloth.
Make and attach each letter with a velcro backing.
Place tablecloth on the floor and allow children to gather around. Remove a letter each time you repeat the song. Clap on the the letters being left out and sing on all other letter. The last verse would be all clapping.

Chicken on the Fencepost, a Texas play party song

skill: motor movement
materials: rubber chicken

Chicken on the fencepost, can’t dance Josie.
Chicken on the fencepost, can’t dance Josie.
Chicken on the fencepost, can’t dance Josie.
Hello, Susan Brown-ee-o!

Children (fenceposts) hold hands or arms and form a standing circle. Place a rubber chicken inside the center of the circle. Choose two or three students to be farmers. The farmers stand outside the fence. Ask the farmers to turn their backs to the fence as you choose the “secret gate.” Farmers may turn back around.

As the song is sung, the children walk in a circle. The farmers may move anywhere outside the circle. At the end of the verse, the children who are the “secret gate” will raise their arms or drop hands creating an entrance to the inside of the circle. The goal for the farmers is to go through the secret gate to get the chicken. Farmers may only enter through the secret gate!

Cabaliito de Madera - Little Horse Made of Wood

traditional chant
materials: drums and claves, animal pictures
objective: learn names of animals in Sp/Eng

(Caballito) de madera
clip clop, clip clop
adelante, para trás
clip clop, clip clop

(Little horse) made of wood
clip clop, clip clop
Going forward, going back
clip clop, clip clop

la ovejita ... little sheep
la vaquita ... little cow
el burrito ... little donkey
el gatito ... kitten
el perrito ... puppy

Five Sugar Cookies (Shaped Like a Texas Star)

adapted from The Everyday Songbook, Connie Walters
skill: math - subtraction

There were five sugar cookies in the cookie jar
Five sugar cookies shaped like a Texas star
Along came (child’s name), from very, very far
And he/she ate one cookie from the cookie jar!

There were four sugar cookies ...
... three ...
... two ...
... one ...

There are zero sugar cookies in the cookie jar.
Zero sugar cookies shaped like a Texas star.
Along came (child’s name) from very, very far
And he/she put more cookies in the cookie jar!

Cut star shapes out of foam to use as cookies. I place 5 in a cookie jar and several more to be used in the last verse. Children dramatize as the song is sung. Use math equations to represent each verse, ex: for verse 1. $5 - 1 = 4$.

The Wild Horseman by Robert Schumann
skill: patterning/sequencing, intro to classical music
materials: music, stick horses or ropes, form chart
available on itunes - \$.99

1. Discuss the AABA form of the music using a chart.
2. With children seated, play the music, children ride in their seats as you point to the pattern changes on the chart. A - horses gallop, B - horses graze
3. Distribute horses or rope to children. Instruct children to go to the “barn” and saddle up their horses.

Remind children that their horses will gallop during the “A” section and graze (freeze) during the “B” section. Give verbal cues to help all horses get back to the barn by the last night of the final “A” section.

Hunt the Cows, from
Farm Songs and the Sounds of Moo-sic, Lynn Kleiner
available on cdbaby.com/lynnkleiner
materials: assorted rhythm instruments, triangle or cowbell
objectives: internalize steady beat/ dramatic play

Section A:

Wake up you sleepy heads and go and get the cattle
Wake up you sleepy heads and go and hunt the cows.

Section B:

The cows are lost, (go down on one knee)
The sun is warm, (go down on two knees)
I think I'll wait, (rest head on hands on floor)
Til they come home. (pretend to sleep)

Place an assortment of rhythm instruments on the floor in a circle, enough for each child to have one instrument. Ask children to sit behind an instrument. In Section A, children will play their instrument on the steady beat.

In Section B, children will dramatize the lyrics. When the teacher or a student plays the triangle or cowbell loudly and quickly, everyone jumps up looking surprised. Play again! (or find a new instrument and play again)

Tortillitas - traditional chant

objective: patting or passing on the beat/
recognizing numbers in Spanish
materials: pre-numbered bean bags and tortilla warmer

Chant: Tortillitas para mama
Tortillitas para papa
Tortillitas para mi
Tortillitas para ti!

Children sit in a circle on the floor. Place tortilla warmer in the center of the circle. Teacher chants the poem and demonstrates desired movements. Give each child a bean bag that is labeled with a number, 0-10. Children will pass the "tortillas" around the circle on the beat as poem is spoken. On "ti" everyone stops passing and looks at the number on their tortilla. As the teacher calls a number, the child with the corresponding numbered bean bag tosses it into the tortilla warmer. OR Numbers can be called out numerically, 0-10 until all beanbags are in the warmer. Redistribute beanbags and play again.

The San Antonio Fair

tune: Old Kentucky Fair
objective: movement game

I went to San Antonio, the San Antonio Fair
To see a señorita with a flower in her hair.*

Shake it like a milkshake, shake it if you can
Shake it like a milkshake and do the best you can.

Rumba to the bottom, rumba to the top
Turn around and turn around until you have to stop.

*(substitute for a boy) To see a señor with a sombrero on his head.

Game: Children form a standing circle. Choose a child (or children) to be "it" in the middle of the circle. Sing song and improvise movements. On "turn around and turn around" the child (children) in the middle of the circle closes their eyes, extends their index finger, and turn to choose a new child to take their place.

Texas Fiddle I Fee

objective: identify Texas state animals
by Devora Miller
tune: I Had Me a Cat

I saw an armadillo, happy as can be
Resting under an old pecan tree.
Armadillo goes, "Fiddle-I-Fee!"

I saw a long horn, happy as can be
Resting under an old pecan tree.
Long horn goes, "Moo-moo!"
Armadillo goes, "Fiddle-I-Fee!"

I saw a dog ... "Woof-woof!"
I saw a mockingbird ... "Cheer-up, cheer-up!"
I saw a bat ... "Eee-eee!"
I saw a butterfly ... "Flutter-flutter!"
I saw a horned lizard ... "Flicker-flicker!"
I saw a Guadalupe bass ... "Glug-glug!"

Instruct children to sing the animal sound and a corresponding animal movement as the song is sung.
Book available through Big Books That Sing!
devoralee@yahoo.com

Round Up

objective: identify corresponding numbers or be able to place numbers in numerical order
materials: containers labeled with numbers in your children's skill set; pre-programmed number cards that match the numbers on the container; prerecorded lively western music.

Game: Place labeled containers numerically in an open area in your classroom. Give each child a number card. You may ask them to tell you the number on their card. Explain that when the music starts they may put their number card in the corresponding container - "1" card would be placed in the container labeled "1." Once they have placed their number card in a container, they may come back to the teacher for another number card. Play until all the cards are gone.

Game option: Using the same number set with the same amount of containers, delete or cover up some of the numbers, keeping all the containers in numerical order. Ex: Containers labeled "1 ... ___ ... 3 ... 4 ... ___ ... 6 ... 7 ... ___ ... 9 ... 10. The game is played the same, but children would have to place their number card in the unlabeled container. Ex: Number card "2" would be placed in the unlabeled container between container "1" and container "3."

Checking for accuracy: Select a container to check. Take each card out one at a time, name the number, and see if it matches the container number. If the number is correct, everyone shouts, "Yee-haw!" If the number is misplaced, allow a child to take that number card and place it in the correct container.

Texas Memory Box

skill: language development

Fill a box with Texas related items, such as: boots, beef jerky, cowboy hat, sheriff badge (toy), western belt buckle, bandana, bluebonnet, bag of beans, horse shoe, rope, shell, etc.

Activity 1. Recall - Take each item out of the box and show them to the children. Name the object and discuss what it is or how it is used. Put the objects back in the box and ask the children to recall as many items as possible. This may be done orally. Teacher may also write the objects on a list.

Activity 2. Oral Language - ask a child to choose an item from the box using this chant:

Class: (Child's name), (child's name), what do you see?

The child chooses an object and responds:

Child: I see a (boot) looking at me!

The chant is based on "Brown Bear, Brown Bear." The chant may also be sung using "sol" and "mi" with the option of ending the word "me" on "do."

Old MacDonald Had a Truck - a book by Steve Goetz illustrated by Eda Kaban

objectives: Children will understand the types of machines that may be used on a modern ranch and the job it does.

Children will practice self-regulation skills - the ability to stop and start playing an instrument
materials: book, a variety of rhythm instruments

1. Sing the book with the children. You may stop and talk about what job each machine does on the ranch.

2. Sing the book. Using an instrument, model when the children should play their instruments. Instruments play

on the sounds the machines make. Ex: truck - vroom vroom

3. Give an instrument to each child. As the book is sung, children will play their instrument on the sounds the machines make. Ex: truck - vroom vroom

The Branding Song

by: Lisa Jastram, Oasis for Children
from "Cowboys, Critters, and Such" CD
objective: develop inner hearing skills

I'm gonna brand my dogie with an "X", with an "X"
Gonna brand my dogie with an "X"
'Cause a dogie needs a brand like a person needs a
name
Gonna brand my dogie with an "X"

brand - pretend you are branding a cow

dogie - show horns on head

"X" - make an "X" with your arms in front of your
body

person - palms face each other, bring hands down from
high to low

name - make an "X" using two fingers from each hand

At The Barn Bell Farm - an echo chant

(pat knees on the beat throughout except when making sounds effects)

1, 2, 3, 4

I couldn't sleep last night

(I couldn't sleep last night)

For the thunder and the lightning

(Crash! Bang!) (clap hands)

At the Barn Bell Farm

(At the Barn Bell Farm)

I couldn't sleep last night

(I couldn't sleep last night)

For the dog on the bed

(Woof! Woof!) (bark)

For the thunder and the lightning

(Crash! Bang!) (clap hands)

At the Barn Bell Farm

(At the Barn Bell Farm)

I couldn't sleep last night

(I couldn't sleep last night)

For the chicken in the kitchen

(Squawk! Squawk!)

For the dog on the bed

(Woof! Woof!) (bark)
For the thunder and the lightning
(Crash! Bang!) (clap hands)
At the Barn Bell Farm
(At the Barn Bell Farm)

I couldn't sleep last night
(I couldn't sleep last night)
For the baby crying
(Waa! Waa!)
For the chicken in the kitchen
(Squawk! Squawk!)
For the dog on the bed
(Woof! Woof!) (bark)
For the thunder and the lightning
(Crash! Bang!) (clap hands)
At the Barn Bell Farm
(At the Barn Bell Farm)

1, 2, 3, 4, Shhh!

Deep in the Heart of Texas

The stars at night are big and bright
Deep in the heart of Texas
The prairie sky is wide and high
Deep in the heart of Texas

The sage in bloom is like perfume
Deep in the heart of Texas
Reminds me of the one that I love
Deep in the heart of Texas

The coyotes wail along the trail
Deep in the heart of Texas
The rabbits rush around the brush
Deep in the heart of Texas

The cowboys cry, "Ki yippee yi!"
Deep in the heart of Texas
The dogies bawl and bawl and bawl
Deep in the heart of Texas

The stars at night are big and bright
Deep in the heart of Texas
The prairie sky is wide and high
Deep in the heart of Texas