

Songs for Transition Times by Kim Price Olsen

Produced by Del Casher in conjunction with Educational Activities, Inc.

INTRODUCTION

These are pleasant songs that help young children learn new words as they transition from one activity to another.

Music is a powerful learning tool. These songs help each child:

- Follow simple directions.
- Use common English phrases
- Learn basic concepts
- Increase receptive and expressive language comprehension through repetition, movement and role-play.
- Feel secure and comfortable by establishing familiar routines.
- Enjoy their natural desire to move, explore, discover and experience.
- Understand expected social behaviors.
- The songs are designed to promote learning as well as make learning a joyous experience!

CREDITS

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1.Hello, Hi

Vocabulary: Greetings; hello, hi, how are you, good morning, good afternoon, classmate's names.

Action: Participants wave hello with one hand and sway side-to-side. In verses two through four the teacher should point to a child while everyone sings their name when the triangle chimes.

Ex: Hello, hi. How is ______ today? (Insert student's name)

2.Center Time

Vocabulary: Center time, fun, learning, step, quietly, choose, red, blue, girl, boy

Action: Listen, sing and follow directions. Participant decides what area of the classroom to work and moves to the area when the song directs them to do so.

3.Our Flag

Vocabulary: Flag, red, white, blue, march, you and me

Materials: Small flag on a stick or an instrument for each child. (Flags can be student made, see directions for handmade instruments)

Action: Participants march with their flags held high or while playing an instrument and singing.

4.Colors

Vocabulary: **Red, blue, green, I am wearing** *Action:* During the verse about the color red they stand if they are wearing mostly red. Repeat for the colors blue and green.

Variation: Participants can hold up a colored paper/card when they hear the color they are given. The color word can be printed on the paper.

5.Clean-Up

Vocabulary: Clean-up, children, now, gather, blocks, playhouse,

other areas of the classroom.

Purpose: Participants know to stop working/ playing and put away materials when they hear this pleasant song. This song also directs the children to move to an area by the teacher, such as the circle-time area.

Action: Participants sing-a-long while cleaning up their workspace and moving to the next

activity. In verses 3 and 4 the teacher should sing the name of a specific center or work area when the triangle chimes.

Ex: Children in the ______ won't you clean-up now? (insert name of center or work area)

6.Wash Your Hands

Vocabulary: Wash, hands, scrub, clean, dirt, germs, gently, drain

Purpose: This song signals children to know that it is time to wash their hands for snack or lunch. Also, a good lead into a discussion about "why" we wash our hands.

Action: Participants pretend to scrub their hands free of dirt and germs while a few children at a time are excused to go to the sink and wash their hands.

7.Please and Thank You

Vocabulary: Please, thank you, you're welcome, nice, words

Purpose: Introduces courtesy phrases and reinforces the use of polite manners.

Action: This song can be sung as the children transition to snack/ lunch gatherings. Notice and encourage the use of this language throughout the day.

8.Rest Time

Vocabulary: Tiptoe, softly, rest, close, eyes, lay down, mat, flat, body, happy, wake-up

Action: The children know that it is time to move to the area where the class will rest when they hear this song. Some classrooms have "mats" to lie participants entire bodies on and others prefer to simply have "mats" to rest their heads upon. Play this song quietly as the participants move to the rest area while singing along.

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9. Sharing and Caring

Vocabulary: Sharing, caring, helping, talking, laughing, sitting, working, playing, napkins

Purpose: To emphasize the importance of appropriate social behaviors, cooperation and respect for others.

Action: Invite students to pretend as they sing along.

Vocabulary: Provide props to use as the children role-play, such as napkins, snacks, etc.

10.Line-Up

Vocabulary: Line-up, stop, children, now, go, names of destinations.

Action: Participants sing-a-long as they move to the area designated for lining up. The teacher should sing the name of the place where the children are going when the triangle chimes.

11.Going Inside

Vocabulary: Go, inside, work, learn, play Materials: Portable CD player (optional)

Action: The teacher should play and/or sing this song when outdoor playtime is over. As the first few children approach the teacher she/he should invite them to sing and clap along as they wait for their peers.

Variation: This song can be learned in advance using the CD, and then used outdoors without the aid of the recorded music as she/he walks around the play area gathering children to join the growing line of participants who are headed indoors.

12.Good-Bye Children

Vocabulary: Good-bye, children, glad, today, play.

Purpose: Learn appropriate leave-takings and create a nurturing atmosphere.

Action: Dramatize appropriate leave-taking gestures with the familiar wave as the group sings.

Variation: The teacher gives each child a comforting hug as they are excused for the day.



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