

IT'S TIME TO SING!

TEACHER' EDITION

Music, Words, Actions and Teaching Ideas Edition by Ellie Hallett

This is the Companion Book to the CHILDREN'S SONGBOOK-READER EDITION of *It's Time to Sing!*
See www.musicworks.net.au for free backing tracks, discount details and how to order.

The Songbook-Reader uses a dyslexia-friendly font, and is printed on cream paper for easier reading.

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Nocturnal Animals

When the sun goes down and the moon and stars come out,
There are lots of nocturnal animals about.

There are owls very still AND
frogs in the creek AND
possums in the roof AND
bats eating fruit AND
crickets chirp a-chirping,

WHEN I'm asleep in bed, in bed, in bed,
WHEN I'm asleep in bed. Goodnight!

Activity Ideas Early Childhood to Year 3. Adapt to suit.

Word identification, visualisation, vocabulary and speech clarity are benefits here ...

Reading: Text phrases (e. g. *frogs in the creek*) placed on a ledge in left-to-right-order teaches not only L-R eye-movement, but how to look ahead of the voice for fluent reading. In the reading sequence of events, the visual information plus sound/word recognition goes from the eyes to the brain, where meaning is deduced by linking it to prior learnings. The brain then sends this visualised and sound pronunciation message to the voice and mouth muscles. If the meaning is clear, the voice's inflexions will match the words. If the eye movement is 'wobbly', fluency and meaning can become easily lost.

Speech: Exaggeration of the mouth muscles/tongue strengthens the speech 'mechanics'. This song gives these facial muscles a good workout.

Vocabulary and Visualisation: Without meaning, reading hits a dead end. Every phrase in this song is a reading lesson. Think phonics, word meanings and visual imagery.



Suggestions for additional verses

There are ...

foxes on the prowl spiders spinning webs moths flying
'round frogmouths watching mice nibble-nibbling
koalas eating gum leaves mosquitoes busy-buzzing
wombats wobble-wobbling rabbits hop-a-hopping etc.

Noisy Animals

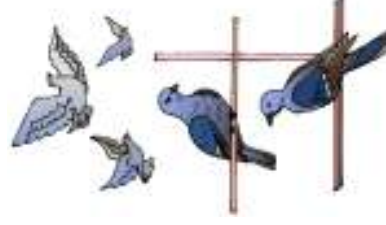
'Come home ducks', 'Quack, quack, quack.'
 'Come home hens', 'Cluck, cluck, cluck.'
 'Come home pups', 'Yap, yap, yap.'
 'Come home everyone, it's time for dinner.'

mice - squeak squeak squeak
 horses - neigh neigh neigh
 cows - moo moo moo

cats - meow meow purr
 chicks - cheep cheep cheep
 roosters - cock-a-doodle-doo

geese - honk honk honk
 pigs - grunt grunt snort
 sheep - baa baa baa

turkeys - gobble gobble gobble
 doves - coo coo coo
 monkeys - chatter, chatter, chatter



Activity Ideas. Early Childhood to Year 2.

This is a vocabulary-building song.

1. Group 1 sings the first phrase, e.g. 'Come home ducks', and Group 2 sings the echo response, 'Quack, quack, quack'.
2. Any number of animals and their noises can be included in sets of three. Finish each set with 'Come home everyone ...'

3. A **noisy zoo or farmyard** effect can be created when everyone silently chooses their own set of three animals. Each person sings simultaneously (like a class of soloists). A cacophony is the result!

4. **Memory Game:** The teacher flashes pictures of three different animals and then hides them. Children sing the song according to the pictures shown. For added fun, pictures can be shown up-side-down, sideways, high, low, etc.

5. **The Friendly Talent Time Competition:** Hold a competition to find the most entertaining partner duet, trio, quartet etc. After discussions and rehearsing, partners and groups perform their verses to the audience. The most musical and artistic rendition judged by the teacher wins a standing ovation.

Teach the **Stage Bow** to acknowledge applause: i) Stand, smile, and look at the back of the room for a slow count of 3.ii) In unison, bow heads from the waist. Look at shoes and hold for another count of 3.iii) Stand, smile again, and look at the audience for another count of 3.iv) Exit.

