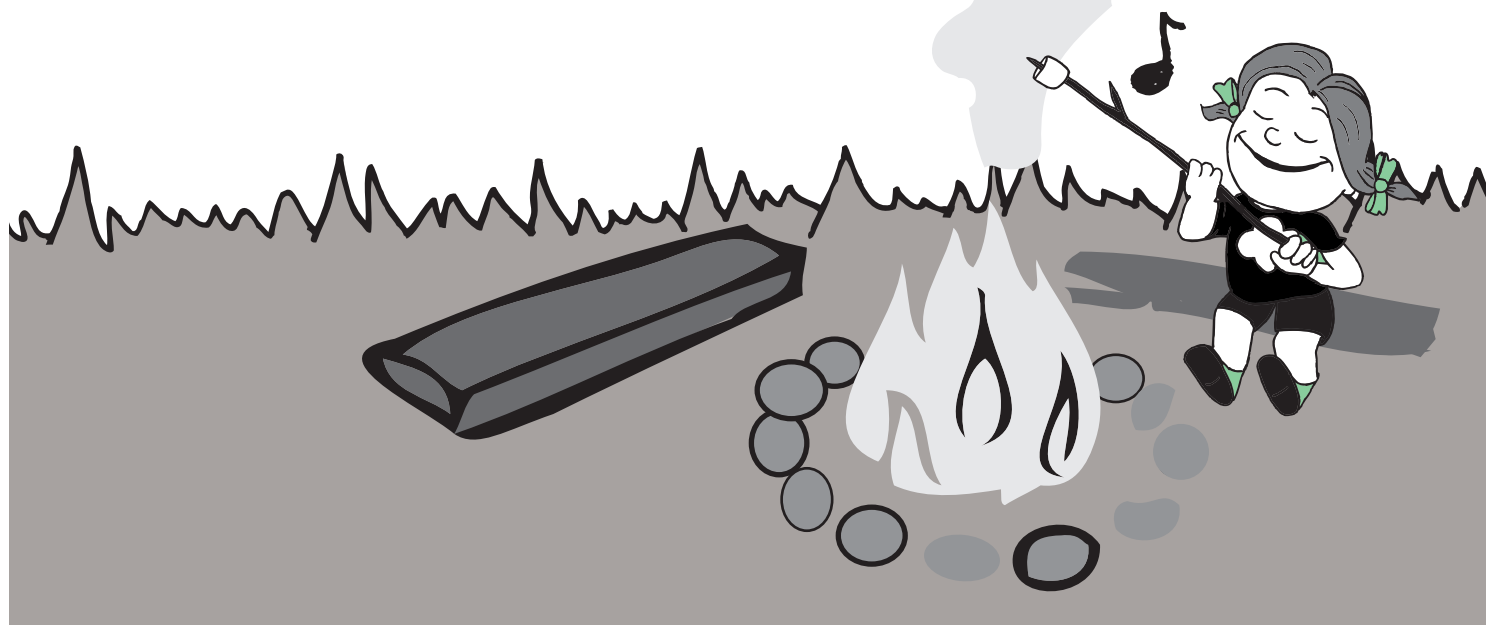


Campfire Sing-a-long Song Book



Leaders, Girls, Volunteers, Parents, and Friends,

We hope you enjoy the Girl Scout Campfire event. Please take this song book home with you to use throughout the year. This song book is being offered as a tool to help pass along the rich tradition of songs learned in Girl Scouting.

While there are so many wonderful songs out there, this is a sampling of six categories: Traditional Girl Scout Songs, Songs in Rounds, Songs “to the tune of”, Songs with Motions, Repeat After Me Songs, and More Songs. There is also a section on tips for leading songs, so you can go back to your troop/group or even the community, and spread the spirit of singing. At the back of the book, you will find an index of songs to make it easier to find your favorites.

We realize there are many different versions of the same songs out there, so feel free to use a different version if you know it. Wherever we could, we have included additional verses to familiar songs, in hopes of improving your “songster” vocabulary.

We hope this song book will inspire you to keep singing long after the campfire has burned out. We hope we have “sparked” an interest in keep the “flame” of song alive in each of you. We will look forward to seeing you at future events and hope to be hearing your lovely voices again soon!

Happy Singing!

Yours in Girl Scouting,
GSBDC Program Team

Traditional Girl Scout Songs

On My Honor

Author Cindy Dasch, used by permission of GSUSA

Chorus: On my honor I will try.
There's a duty to be done and I say "aye".
There's a reason here for a reason up above, My
honor is to try and my duty is to love.

People don't need to know my name.
If I've done any harm, then I'm to blame.
When I help another then I help me.
If I open up my eyes, then I can see.

I've tucked away a song or two.
If you're feeling low, there's one for you.
If you need a friend then I will come.
And there's many more where I come from.

(Chorus)

Come with me where a fire burns bright.
We can even see better by candle light.
We'll find more meaning in a campfire's glow,
Then we'll ever learn in a year or so.

Friendship is the strangest thing.
If you keep it to yourself, no reward will it
bring.
If you give it away, give some to me.
From now on great friends we'll be.

(Chorus)

We've made a promise to always keep.
We sing "Day is Done" before sleep;
We'll be Girl Scouts together and when we're
gone, We'll still be a-trying and a-singing this
song.

(Chorus)

Make New Friends

Make new friends, but keep the old,
One is silver and the other gold.

A circle is round, it has no end,
That's how long I want to be your friend.

Additional verses:

I've got a hand, and you've got another,
If we put them together then we have each
other.

A fire burns bright, it warms the heart.
We've been friends, from the very start.

Silver is precious, gold is too.
I am precious, and so are you.

You help me, and I'll help you,
and together we will see it through.

The sky is blue, the Earth is green.
I can help to keep it clean.

Across the land, across the sea,
Friends forever, we will always be.

When E'er You Make a Promise

Author W.W. Shield

When e'er you make a promise,
Consider well its importance,
And when made,
Engrave it upon your heart.

Kum Ba Yah

Chorus: Kum ba yah my lord, kum ba yah,
Kum ba yah my lord, kum ba yah,
Kum ba yah my lord, kum ba yah!
Oh Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah,
Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah,
Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah,
Oh Lord, kum ba yah!

2. Someone's singing, Lord, kum by yah
3. Someone's sleeping, Lord, kum by yah
4. Someone's praying, Lord, kum by yah
(Chorus)

Linger

Mm-mmm, I want to linger,
Mm-mmm, a little longer,
Mm-mmm, a little longer here with you.

Mm-mmm, it's such a perfect night,
Mm-mmm, it doesn't seem quite right,
Mm-mmm, that this should be my last with you.

Mm-mmm, and come September,
Mm-mmm, we'll all remember,
Mm-mmm, our camping days and friendships true.

Mm-mmm, and as the years go by,
Mm-mmm, we will look back and sigh,
Mm-mmm, this is goodnight and not goodbye.

“G” For Generosity

She wears a G for generosity
She wears a I for interest too
She wears a R for real-life sportsmanship
She wears a L for loyalty, for loyalty
She wears a S for her sincerity
She wears a C for courtesy, for courtesy
She wears an O-U-T for outdoor life, outdoor life.
And that Girl Scout is Me! Yeah!

He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands

He’s got the whole world in His hands. He’s got the whole world in His hands. He’s got the whole world in His hands. He’s got the whole world in His hands.

1. He’s got the Darling, Darling Daisies in His hands.
He’s got the Darling, Darling Daisies in His hands.
He’s got the Darling, Darling Daisies in His hands.
He’s got the whole world in His hands.
2. He’s got the Beautiful, Beautiful Brownies in His hands.
3. He’s got the Jazzy, Jazzy Juniors in His hands.
4. He’s got the Crafty, Crafty Cadettes in His hands.
5. He’s got the Super, Super Seniors in His hands.
6. He’s got the Awesome, Awesome Ambassadors in His hands.
7. He’s got the Lovely, Lovely Leaders in His hands

Many different versions of this song exist, including one where verse #7 is “Loud Mouth Leaders” and that part would be shouted. Please choose the word choice that suits your group best.

Brownie Smile Song

Author Harriet F. Heywood, used by permission of GSUSA

I’ve got something in my pocket, it belongs across my face.
I keep it very close to me, in a most convenient place.
I’m sure you’ll never guess it if you guess a long, long while,
So I’ll take it out and put it on, it’s my great big Brownie smile!

Barges

Out of my window looking in the night
I can see the barges flickering light.
Silently flows the river to the sea,
As the barges do go silently.

Chorus: Barges, I would like to go with
you, I would like to sail the ocean blue.
Barges, have you treasures in your
hold? Do you fight with pirates brave
and bold?

Out of my window looking in the night,
I can see the barges flickering light.
Starboard shines green and port is glowing
red You can see them flickering far ahead.
(Chorus)

Out of my window looking in the night,
I can see the barges flickering light.
And I sit here, by my window drear,
As the barges sail away from here.
(Chorus)

Girl Scouts Together

Author Gladys Cornwall Goff, used by permission of GSUSA

Girl Scouts together, that is our song.
Winding the old trail, rocky and long.
Learning our motto, living our creed,
Girl Scouts together, in every good deed.

Girl Scouts together, happy are we.
Friendly to neighbors, far o'er the sea.
Faithful to country, loyal to home,
Girl Scouts together, wherever we roam.

Taps

Lyrics by Rukard Hurd, Controlled by Widener University, Chester, PA

Day is done, gone the sun.
From the lakes, from the hills, from the sky.
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Additional verses:

Fading light, dims the sight,
And a star gems the sky, gleaming bright.
From afar, drawing nigh, falls the night.

Thanks and praise, for our days,
'Neath the sun, 'neath the stars, 'neath the sky;
As we go, this we know, God is nigh.

Sun has set, shadows come,
Time has fled, Scouts must go to their beds
Always true to the promise that they made.

While the light fades from sight,
And the stars gleaming rays softly send,
To thy hands we our souls, Lord, commend.

Friendship Circle

A friendship circle is usually done at the end of a Girl Scout gathering. Everyone stands in a circle. Each person crosses their arms right over left and holds hands with their arms crossed. *It is very important that everyone's arms are crossed the same direction. Have an adult go around and check to be sure. As a group, everyone's sings a song, like Taps or Make new Friends, or shares something they learned that day. Any announcements or instructions for leaving can also be shared during this time. Then, a leader starts the friendship squeeze. She squeezes the hand of the girl to her right, then that girl squeezes the hand of the girl to her right and so on. The squeeze is finished when it has reached the person it started with. If everyone's arms are crossed the same, everyone can then tuck their head under their arm and spin around. If it is done correctly, everyone will be holding hands facing out of the circle. The gathering is then dismissed.

Songs to Sing in Rounds

Singing in rounds is when you take a short song and sing it in groups, with each group starting on a different line or verse of the song. Each group sings the song all the way through a specific number of times, but because each group begins singing at a different time, each group will be singing a different line at the same time. This is a fun way to make a simple song more interesting.

Rise Up O Flame

Attributed to Christopher Praetorius

Rise up, O Flame,
By thy lights glowing,
Show to us beauty,
Vision and joy.

Black Socks

Black socks,
They never get dirty.
The more that you wear them,
The blacker they get.
Sometimes I think I might wash
them, But then I get busy,
Not yet. Not yet.

One Bottle of Pop

One bottle o'pop, Two bottle o'pop,
Three bottle o'pop, Four bottle
o'pop, Five bottle o'pop, Six bottle
o'pop, Seven bottles of pop.

Don't put your dust in my dust bin,
My dust bin, My dust bin.
Don't put your dust in my dust bin,
My dust bin's full.

Fish and chips and vinegar,
Vinegar, vinegar.
Fish and chips and vinegar,
Pepper, pepper, pepper, pot.

Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream.
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
Life is but a dream.

Make New Friends

Make new friends, but keep the old,
One is silver and the other gold.

A circle is round, it has no end,
That's how long I want to be your friend.

I Love the Mountains

I love the mountains, I love the rolling
hills, I love the daisies, I love the
daffodils,
I love the fireside, when all the lights are
low.

(Chorus)

Boom-de-a-da, Boom-de-a-
da. Boom-de-a-da, Boom-de-
a-da,

Repeat

Songs “to the tune of”

Once a Girl Scout Went to Camp

(To the tune of Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes)

Once a Girl Scout went to camp, went to camp,
Went to camp without her lamp, without her lamp,
And when she saw a spider in her bed, in her bed,
This is what the Girl Scout said, Girl Scout said:

“Spider, spider, go away, go away,
You are not allowed to stay, allowed to stay
This is what my Girl Scout Leader said:
‘No two bodies in one bed, in one bed!’”

Once a Boy Scout went to camp, went to camp,
Went to camp without his lamp, without his lamp,
And there he saw a spider in his bed, in his bed,
This is what the Boy Scout said, Boy Scout said,
“Aaaaaaaaaaaaaahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh”

God Bless My Underwear

(To the tune of God Bless America)

God bless my underwear, my only pair.
I have worn them, and torn them, on the seat of the old rocking
chair. From the washer, to the dryer, to the clothesline in the air.
God bless my underwear, my only pair.

Tom the Toad

(To the tune of O Tannenbaum)

Oh Tom the toad, Oh Tom the toad,
Why are you lying on the road?
Oh Tom the toad, Oh Tom the toad,
Why are you lying on the road?
You did not see the car ahead,
And now you’re marked with tire tread.
Oh Tom the toad, Oh Tom the toad,
Why are you lying on the road?

I’m a Girl Scout

(To the tune of Brother John)

I’m a Girl Scout.
I’m a Girl Scout.
Who are you?
Who are you?
Can’t you tell by looking?
Can’t you tell by looking?
I’m one too.
I’m one too.

Frog Song

(To the tune of the Brownie Smile Song)

I’ve got something in my pocket; I found it on a log.
My leader said to put it back, but I want to keep this frog.
It’s green and it’s slimy and it wiggles in my hand.
I also have a wooly worm and a pocket full of sand!

Ode to a Girl Scout Leader

(To the tune of the Battle Hymn of the Republic)

I was glad to have a daughter ‘cause our first child was a son,
I thought of all the ruffles, all the frilly bows and fun.
I thought of how we’d sit and talk at night when day was done,
Wasn’t I the foolish one?

She was only half past seven when they called me to the fore.
I said “I’m not equipped” They said “Oh, yes you are, what’s more;
We’ll train you in the basics, we’ll outfit you for the corps.”
Why couldn’t I have had a son?

Glory, Glory I’m a leader.
How’d I get to be a leader?
All I did was have a daughter.
Is this the price I pay?

(Continued on next page)

Songs “to the tune of”

They taught me to be thrifty, to be thoughtful, to be true.
They taught me how to string beads like the noble Indians do.
I had to learn to dig a trench, and how to use it too.
And you should taste the stew!

I had to learn to sing songs that I didn't understand.
I learned to dance the polka and to make a rhythm band.
To think of what to do and then forget what I had planned.
And they say Scouting's grand.

Glory, Glory I'm a leader.
Me, they had to make a leader.
I can't even build a fire,
Let alone put up a tent!

We went walking in the woodlands, my Girl Scout troop and
me. The handbook says that nature has a wealth of sights to
see.
It's true we sure were sights when we were found eventually,
And I do all this for free.

I'm not meant to be a leader; I don't know which bird is
which. My wiener fork's all burned up, we come home from
hikes and itch. The sit-upons all fell apart, I showed them the
wrong stitch,
But no one wants to switch.

Glory, Glory I'm a leader.
Hallelujah, I'm a leader.
Tell me why I should be happy,
When no one envies me.

But even though I grumble and I mumble and I shout.
Though there are days I wonder what's the best way to get
out,
I guess when all is said and done, there isn't any doubt.
I'm glad to be a Scout!

Glory, Glory I'm a leader.
Someone's got to be a leader.
They can carve it on my tombstone
“Here's a girl who did her best!”

Girl Scout World

(To the tune of I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing)

I'd build a Girl Scout world
filled with love and laughter, too.
Grow Brownies small and Seniors tall,
Cadettes and Juniors too.

I'd like to teach Girl Scouts to sing, in perfect
harmony. I'd like to take them on a hike, and keep
them company.

I'd like to see Girl Scouts today,
all standing hand in hand
And hear them echo through the world
for peace throughout the land

Bug Juice

(To the tune of On Top of Old Smokey)

At the camp with the Girl
Scouts, They gave us a drink.
We thought it was Kool-aid,
because it was pink.

But the thing that they told us,
would've grossed out a moose,
For that great tasting pink
drink, was really bug juice.

It looked fresh and fruity,
like tasty Kool-aids,
But the bugs that were in it,
were murdered with Raid.

We drank it by gallons,
we drank it by tons,
And the next morning,
we all had the runs.

So the next time you drink
bug juice,
and a fly drives you mad,
He's just getting even,
'Cause you swallowed his
Dad.

Songs with Motions

Going on a Bear Hunt

One person leads; the rest of the group repeats each line after (slap hands on thighs like walking)

Goin' on a bear hunt
Gonna catch a big one
I'm not afraid (shake head no)
What's that up ahead (shade eyes with hand, look around)

A field:

Can't go around it,
Can't go under it,
Can't go over it
Gotta go through it (rub hands together)
 A lake (swimming motion)
 A mud puddle (cup hands together, suction sound)
 A tree (climbing motion)
 A cave (reaching out in the dark)

What's this?
It has a nose..
eyes...
ears...
fur...
It's a bear!

(run away, through actions backward)
Out of the cave (reaching out in the dark)
A tree (climbing motion)
A mud puddle (suction hands, move fast)
A lake (swimming motion)
A field (rub hands together)

Whew! (wipe your brow)
We're home
I'm not afraid!

My Name is Joe

Hi, my name is Joe.

I've got a wife, three kids and I work in a button factory, One day the boss says are you busy? I said no,

He said push this button with your _____.

1. Left hand
2. Right Hand
3. Left Foot
4. Right Foot
5. Butt
6. Tongue

Do each motions as stated while you sing the next verse, building up to doing them all for the last verse.

If You're Happy and You know It

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands. (clap your hands twice!)

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands. (clap your hands twice!)

If you're happy and you know it, then you really ought to show it.

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands. (clap your hands twice!)

If you're happy and you know it, stamp your feet. (stomp your feet twice!)

If you're happy and you know it, stamp your feet. (stomp your feet twice!)

If you're happy and you know it, then you really ought to show it.

If you're happy and you know it, stamp your feet. (stomp your feet twice!)

If you're happy and you know it, snap your fingers. (snap twice!) If you're happy and you know it, snap your fingers. (snap! snap!) If you're happy and you know it, then you really ought to show it. If you're happy and you know it, snap your fingers. (snap! snap!)

If you're happy and you know it, sing a song. (sing "Tra-la-la!")

If you're happy and you know it, sing a song. (sing "Tra-la-la!")

If you're happy and you know it, then you really ought to show it. If

you're happy and you know it, sing a song. (sing "Tra-la-la!")

If you're happy and you know it, wear a smile. (smile big!)

If you're happy and you know it, wear a smile. (smile big!)

If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it. If

you're happy and you know it, wear a smile.

Grey Squirrel

Grey squirrel, grey squirrel,
(bounce up and down on the words)
swish your bushy tail.
(shake your tail)
Grey squirrel, grey squirrel,
(bounce up and down on the words)
swish your bushy tail.
(shake your tail)
Wrinkle up your funny nose,
(poke your nose)
Hold a nut between your toes.
(touch your toes)
Grey squirrel, grey squirrel,
(bounce up and down on the words)
swish your bushy tail.
(shake your tail)

Do Your Ears Hang Low

Do your ears hang low?
(put your hands against your head, fingers hanging
down) Do they wobble to and fro?
(shake your fingers)
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
(pretend to throw something over your shoulder)
Like a Continental Soldier?
(salute)
Do your ears hang low?

Repeat After Me Songs

Princess Pat

The Princess Pat, Lived
in a tree. She sailed
across The seven seas.
She sailed across The
channel, too. And took
with her A rig of
bamboo.
(Chorus)

Chorus:

A rig of bamboo,
now what is that? It's
something made by
the Princess Pat. It's
red and gold and
purple, too. That's
why it's called a rig of
bamboo.

Now Capt. Jack
Has a mighty fine
crew He sailed across
The channel, too. But
his ship sank And so
will you.
If you don't take
A rig of bamboo.
(Chorus)

Now the Princess Pat
Saved Captain Jack
She pulled him out
She brought him
back. She saved his
life And his crew too
Do you know how?
Whit a rig of
bamboo.(Chorus)

Flea Fly

Flea
Flea Fly
Flea Fly Mosquito!
(draw it out really long on mosquito)
Calamine, Calamine, Calamine lotion.
(rub your arms)
Oh, no, no, no not the lotion.
(shake your finger back and forth)
Quick get the bug spray, I think he went that
away. (point in opposite directions)
Ooh. Ugh. I got that bug.
(squish the bug in your hands)

Repeat After Me Songs

The Bear Song

The other day
I met a bear
A great big bear
Away out there!

He looked at me
I looked at him
He smiled at me
I smiled at him

He said to me
“Why don’t you
run? I see you ain’t
Got any gun!”

And so I ran
Away from there
But right behind
Me was that bear!

Ahead of me
There was a tree A
great big tree Oh,
mercy me!

The lowest branch
Was ten feet up
I’d have to jump
And trust my luck!

And so I jumped
Into the air
But I missed that branch
Away up there!

Now don’t you fret
Now don’t you frown
‘Cause I caught that
branch On the way back
down!

That is the end
There ain’t no more
Unless I meet
That bear once more!

Boom Chicka Boom

I said a boom chicka boom!
I said a boom chicka boom!
I said a boom chicka rocka chicka boom!
Uh-huh!
Oh yeah!
One more time now _____ style!

Valley Girl Style

I said like, boom chicka boom!
I said like, boom chicka, like rocka chicka, like gag me with a
spoon!

Janitor Style – (make a sweeping action)

Broom pusha broom.
Broom pusha moppa pusha moppa pusha broom!

Motorcycle Style – (make a driving action)

Vroom chicka vroom!

Opera Style – (opera voice)

Underwater Style – (wiggle your fingers over your lips)

Make up your own!

Other Fun Songs

Alice the Camel

Alice the camel has five humps Alice
the camel has five humps Alice the
camel has five humps So go Alice go!
Boom boom boom.

Alice the camel has no
humps Alice the camel has
no humps Alice the camel
has no humps Because Alice
is a horse!

...repeat counting down until...

Little Bar of Soap

Oh, I wish I were a little bar of soap (bar of soap)
Oh, I wish I were a little bar of soap (bar of soap)
I'd go slippy, slippy, slidey over everybody's hidey,
Oh, I wish I were a little bar of soap (bar of soap).

Juicy orange

I'd go squirty, squirty, squirty over everybody's shirty.

Mosquito

I'd go bitey, bitey, bitey under everybody's nighty.

Foamy root beer

I'd go down with a slurp and come up with a burp.

Church pigeon

I'd go up on the steeple and ptttt on the people.

Little green pea

I'd go skatey, skatey, skatey over everybody's platey.

Little safety pin

I'd hold together what was busted 'til the day that I got
rusted.

Swimming

Swimming, swimming, in the swimming pool.

Hot days, cold days, in the swimming pool.

Breast stroke, side stroke, fancy diving, too.

Don't you wish that you could have,

Nothing else to do, but... (repeat)

Flicker of a Campfire

Flicker of a campfire, the wind in the pines.
The stars in the heavens, a moon that shines.
A place where people gather, make friends of all kinds.
A place where old man trouble is always left behind.

Chorus:

So give me the light of a campfire, warm and bright;
And give me some friends to sing with, we'll be here all night.
Love is for those who find it, I've found mine right here,
Just you and me and the campfire, and the songs we love to hear.

Sha-boom, Sha-boom, sha-na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na sha-boom.
(repeat)

Buddies and Pals

You and me, we're gonna be partners,
You and me, we're gonna be pals.
You and me, we're gonna be partners,
Buddies and pals.

From now on, we're going to be partners,
From now on, we're going to be pals,
From now on, we're going to be partners,
Buddies and pals.

Till the end, we're going to be partners,
Till the end, we're going to be pals,
Till the end, we're going to be partners,
Buddies and pals.

You and me, we're gonna be partners,
From now on, we're going to be pals,
Till the end, we're going to be partners,
Buddies and pals.

Have Fun

Have fun our motto is
Have fun or you will miss,
A life of happiness,
While you're young,
Remember have fun.
Remember have fun.

Have love in all that's good.
Have love it's understood,
You'll live the life you
should, While you're young,
Remember have fun.
Remember have fun.

Have friends believe in them.
Have friends receive from them,
Good times until the end,
While you're young,
Remember have fun.
Remember have fun.

Have faith in God above.
Have faith in His great love,
You'll find the peace of
doves, While you're young,
Remember have fun.
Remember have fun.

The More We Get Together

The more we get together, together, together,
The more we get together, the happier we'll
be. 'Cause my friends are your friends,
And your friends are my friends.
The more we get together, the happier we'll
be.

Clementine

In a cavern, in a canyon, excavating for a mine,
dwelt a miner forty-niner and his daughter, Clementine.

Chorus: Oh, my darling, oh, my darling, oh, my darling Clementine.
You are lost and gone forever, dreadful sorry, Clementine.

Light she was, and like a fairy, and her shoes were number nine.
Hit her foot against a splinter, fell into the foaming brine.
(Chorus)

Drove she duckling to the water, every morning just at nine,
Hit her foot against a splinter, fell into the foaming brine.
(Chorus)

Ruby lips above the water, blowing bubbles soft and fine.
But alas! I was no swimmer, so I lost my Clementine.
(Chorus)

In a churchyard, near the canyon, where the myrtle doth entwine.
There grow roses and other posies, fertilized by Clementine.
(Chorus)

In my dreams, she still doth haunt me, robed in garments soaked with
brine. Though in life I used to hug her, now she's dead I draw the line.
(Chorus)

Listen, Girl Scout, heed the warning to this tragic tale of mine:
Artificial respiration could have saved my Clementine.
(Chorus)

How I missed her, how I missed her, how I missed my Clementine,
Till I kissed her little sister, and forgot my Clementine.
(Chorus)

My Friends

Chorus: My friends, my friends are good to me.
I like them and they like me.

Together we share our juice and bread. We're so
happy when everyone's fed
(Chorus)

Together we'll dance and play around, Wiggle
our toes in the soft green ground.
(Chorus)

Mountains high and valleys low,
We'll be together wherever we go.
(Chorus)

Let There Always Be a Song

Let there always be a
song, A song down in
your heart. Let there
always be a song, A song
down in your heart.
When you sing you say,
"Life is good today."
So keep singing
'till we meet again.

Let there always be a
smile, For everyone to
see.
Let there always be a
smile, For everyone to
see. When you smile you
say, "Life is good today."
So keep smiling
'till we meet again.
(Repeat verse one)

Let there always be a laugh,
To share with everyone.
Let there always be a laugh,
To share with everyone.
When you laugh you say,
"Life is good today."
So keep singing
'till we meet again.

Let there always be some
love, Some love to give away.
Let there always be some
love, Some love to give away.
When you love you say,
"Life is good today."
So keep loving
'till we meet again.

Basic Tips for Teaching Songs

1. Be familiar with the song so you don't need to use a song sheet or book as a "crutch".
2. Sing the song through first.
3. Say the words phrase by phrase and have the group repeat.
4. Sing the words phrase by phrase and have the group repeat.
5. Sing the song together 3 times or until known - but don't wear it out.
6. If a song has several verses, teach one verse at a time.
7. Begin with simple songs and move on to more difficult ones later on.
8. You give the starting note. Avoid pitching the song too high or too low.
9. Songs may be taught using tapes or CD's as well, just follow the procedure above.

Choosing Songs

- Get to know the group that you will be working with. How old are they? How many girls are there?
- Begin with simple songs or songs that the girls know. Choose songs that are simple, like short rounds, repeat songs, or those that include repetition.
- Sing songs you know. Learn the song words and the melody. Practice. Use note cards if you need them. Make a list of the songs you will sing, and know the order you will sing them in. If you know something of the history of the song, share it with the girls.
- If you are choosing songs for an evening program, start out with the rowdy songs and end up with the quiet songs to set the tone for bedtime.

Leading Songs

- Be enthusiastic.
- Sing the song through for the group. Introduce the song (if there is a story to it). Sing the first verse and the chorus, so group members know how it sounds. Have those who know it sing with you.
- Teach the song phrase by phrase. Sing a phrase, and have the group sing back to you. Then join phrases and sing the verse and chorus. If it is long, teach a few verses, and then repeat. Repeat once or twice.
- Sing the song all together. If singing a round, or a song with parts, make sure each group knows its part well before putting the parts together. If you are singing a song with parts, for each part have a leader who knows it. Use simple hand motions to keep the tempo.

Other Points

- You give the starting note. Hum the melody or use a musical instrument (if possible). If you get it wrong, stop and start over. Avoid pitching too high or too low for girls.
- If the song has motions or actions, make sure that girls follow your motions. Let them know that motions are used to keep the group together in the right tempo, and the motions will help them know where you are in the song.
- Choose a variety of songs. Do songs that are fast and slow, songs that include hand motions, and songs that lend themselves to simple harmony, as well as funny songs. Avoid songs that might be offensive to religious or ethnic groups.

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321 Virginia Street West Charleston,
WV 25322-0507 Phone: 304. 345.7722
Toll-Free: 800.756.7616
Fax: 304. 345.6427
Email: customercare@bdgsc.org
www.bdgsc.org