God's Children Sing

FRIENDS IN GOD'S WORLD



Living With Music at Home

God's Children Sing Friends in God's World

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Production by Maria Paula Survilla

Companion Materials:

• Teacher Recordings, available on cassette or CD

Focused Listening (GCS, T1)

Tap, Dance, and Move (GCS, T2)

• Two sets of materials for very young children and their families consisting of a cassette of songs, poetry, prayers and dances together with a parents' guide.

God, My Family, and Me (GCS, A)

God's Wonderful World (GCS, B)

Two sets of materials for young children and their families consisting of 1) a
cassette of songs, poetry, prayers, listening games and a Bible story; 2) eight
full-color illustrated cards; and 3) a parents' guide. Each set is packaged in a
colorful Guatemalan pouch.

Friends in God's World (GCS, C) Friends of Jesus (GCS, D)

Credits:

"Psalm 8" by John Erickson.

"Who Made Ocean, Earth, and Sky?" © 1921 & 1948, E.C. Schirmer Publishing.

Dear Parents,

This collection of musical activities is a personal invitation to you, your child and family to share your faith in joyous celebration through music.

It is our view that your home establishes the most important learning environment in your child's lifetime. You, your child's first teacher, have a unique role in nurturing and supporting his/her exploration of the traditions and stories of your faith.

The suggestions in this booklet are intended to share specific ideas for becoming actively involved in a music experience with your child. Whether singing praises to God with instruments, rocking with a prayerful lullaby, or dancing to a spiritual song, these can be special times of sharing your faith through the gift of music. Such moments of closeness have a decisive role in strengthening the whole family.

As you become familiar with the songs and musical activities they will become part of your family's daily routine - a bedtime prayer, a mealtime blessing or a morning song of praise.

God's wonder-ful world of sound enfolds us always, so watch for opportunities to make musical sounds with your child as you play, walk, ride in the car, pray or tell stories. Create your own intimate musical experiences by responding to your child's interests and questions naturally.

May you find this recording and parent's guide a help in making your home a place where music is a part of everyday life. Making music together will play a significant role in your child's development of body, mind and spirit.

Fondly, The Authors

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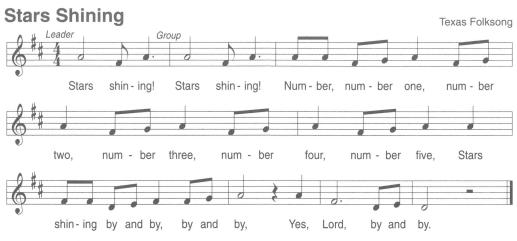
Recorded by: Soprano, Mandolin, Banjo, Piano

This joyful song is ideal for accompanying with simple instruments. Use rhythm instruments such as sticks, jingles, rattles, and drums or make joyful noises on pots, pans, and kitchen utensils. Try making your own shaker by putting dried beans or rice into a plastic egg, film canister or other small container. Glue top and bottom together and thn decorate it.



Recorded by: Children, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone

Talk with your child about shepherds and ways that they care for their sheep, much in the same way that God cares for us and you care for your child. When you sing this song, rock your child in your lap or stand, holding hands, and rock together from side to side.



Recorded by: Children, Flute, French Horn, Harp, Piano, Glockenspiel

Add the following actions to this song as you sing it:

- Twinkle with your fingers (wiggle them) for the stars.
- Touch each finger on one hand as you sing the numbers in the song.
- Sing a second verse, counting up to ten. For this verse count the fingers on both hands.

To play a counting game with your child, cut ten stars out of construction paper. Lay out five stars and sing the song, inviting your child to join you pointing to each star as you sing the numbers. Sing the number section slowly and deliberately, giving your child the necessary time to point to each star. Repeat the song, using all ten stars.

To play a singing game with your family and friends, designate each person to be a "star" with a special number. Have everyone seated as the song begins. Each person stands and "twinkles" (wiggles fingers) as his/her number is sung. Talk together about different ways to "twinkle" with your body, and repeat the song, using the suggestions.

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