

Music Makers: At Home in the World

My Neighborhood Community

Parent's Guide to Activities

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Make music together often.
Become your **child's companion** in discovering the world of music. You will be given the opportunity to watch your child's love of music grow and to help his/her ability to make music blossom.

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Making Music at Home

We have prepared this family packet to help you take the joy of the *Music Makers* classes home! Music is sound and it is our hope that these materials will help you and your family “fill the air with music” in your daily life.

Your family packet consists of an outstanding recording, a poster of *My Neighborhood Community* with six Game Pieces (parent/child, coddling moth worm in an apple, crow, paper wasp nest, rabbits, and a robin pulling a worm), an Animal Tracks coloring page and this *Parent’s Guide to the Activities*.

The guide is structured to follow the activities as they are presented on the recording. On the recording you will find songs, poems and stories, as well as sounds, listening games and movement activities. Use these as examples on which to build your own games and explorations.

Listen • Move • Sing • Play – these are the four main areas of our activities in *Music Makers*. We urge you to share these listening, moving, vocalizing and instrument activities with your child to increase his/her participation in and enjoyment of the *Music Makers* program. The better your child knows the activities, the more s/he will participate in class.

The *My Neighborhood Community* poster features an elementary school and its surroundings. The Game Pieces are a special feature to highlight various aspects of the poster as you “go looking to see if anybody is home.” Take time to carefully examine each Game Piece together with your child.

We encourage you to take every opportunity to go looking and listening with your child, starting close to home and moving into “nearby nature” to find hidden places, a stream, an old tree, maybe even an accidental wild spot on the fringe of the city. Start to explore the sights and sounds of the area where you live.



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Music Makers

Track 1



Crick - ets in the thick - ets, Ka - ty - dids in trees; make mu - sic in the sum - mer



car - ried by the breeze. Frogs in bogs and peep - ers and



birds that live near - by fill the air with mu - sic.



So do you and I, and so do you and I.

Music Beverly Glenn-Copeland

Text: Aileen Fisher

American poet and author Aileen Fisher wrote this special verse for the Musikgarten *Music Makers* Series! Canadian song writer Beverly Glenn-Copeland wrote the melody and composer Howard Baer has created a joyous setting for our theme song. We invite you to improvise your own way of making music to this tune. Use any and all of the instruments which you have to fill the air with music.

Recording: Children's Choir, Flute, Guitar, Bass, Piano

My Neighborhood Community

Track 2

Lay out the poster for My Neighborhood Community and the Game Piece of the Parent/Child. Go looking together to find the elementary school house, the playground and equipment, a small vegetable garden, a crabapple tree, and the stream in the background with a farm and horses out in the pasture. The telephone pole provides a home for a downy woodpecker and sunflowers planted around it attract birds such as goldfinches and chickadees. How many homes can you find in the painting? Find appropriate places to put the other Game Pieces:

- the crow in the apple tree,
- the coddling moth worm inside an apple underneath the tree,
- the paper hornets nest in the willow by the stream,
- the rabbits and the robin any place in the grassy area.

Looking Around

Track 3

Bees
own the clover,
birds
own the sky,
rabbits,
the meadow
with low grass and high.

Frogs
own the marshes,
ants
own the ground...
I hope they don't mind
my looking around.
– Aileen Fisher

My Neighborhood Community Sounds

Tracks 4-9

Children's Voices, Crow, Horse, Paper Wasps and Running Stream

Listen to these sounds together. Can you identify each of the sounds and find them on the poster? Find the home for each of the animals in the poster.



Crow. This large, gregarious bird is highly intelligent and very wary. It has a powerful all-purpose bill, and eats many different things. The crow's call is a raucous "caw, caw, caw."



Paper Wasps. These social insects construct large nests suspended from branches of trees, barn roofs, or eaves. They chew wood fiber into a kind of paper to make bundles of cells covered with the same material. These nests are enlarged over the summer, but by fall all the wasps have died and only the queen survives. The paper nest is abandoned and the queen hibernates under the bark of a tree. Wasps are notoriously short tempered, so are best left alone.

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