

Music Makers: At Home in the World

MY HOME PLACE

PARENTS' GUIDE TO ACTIVITIES

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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! It is our sincere hope that these materials will help you and your family “fill the air with music” in your daily life.

Your family packet consists of a recording, a folder/poster of *My Home Place* with a closeup of *Tree Homes*, pictures of the featured instrumental ensembles *Recorder, Drum, and Guitar* and *Brass Instruments*, and a notation game *Graphic Notation Cards* in addition to this *Parents’ Guide to the Activities*. The guide is structured to follow the activities as they are presented on the recording. The recording gives you examples and activities on which you can 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 activities with your child; s/he will have the confidence and desire to participate even more eagerly in class because of your involvement at home. In this booklet you will find many ideas to help you get started.

My Home Place, my dwelling and its immediate surroundings, is our point of departure for this unit. 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, an accidental wild spot on the fringe of the city. Look and listen to discover who might be at home.

Recorder, Drum, and Guitar are the first set of featured instruments in this unit. All three are folk instruments; they have a long history and are therefore a good place to begin in the study of instruments. These relatively simple instruments are easy to differentiate in sound quality. It is also easy for a child to produce a sound on each one of them.

Brass Instruments, the second featured set, are wonderfully powerful, shiny instruments to which every child is attracted. If there is an instrument store where you live, you may enjoy a visit to look around. As your child becomes familiar with the instruments and the sounds they make, going to performances where the instruments are played will become a special treat.

Enjoy making music together! 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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Music Notation by Scott Whitesell

Music Makers: At Home in the World

- Family Packets for: *My Home Place*, *Woodlands*, *Cattail Marsh*, and *Meadow*
Each unit includes: 1) Folder/Poster with Game Pieces, 2) Recording with songs, dances, instrument demonstrations, notation games and classical music, 3) Instrument Poster(s), 4) Notation Game(s), 5) Parent's Guide to the Activities
- Family Packets for *My Neighborhood Community* and *Seashore*, additional units containing similar resources without sequentially based materials
- My Album Binder for children to collect their materials
- *Teacher's Guide*, bound book with 160 activity cards, lesson planning binder, Supplement 2000
- *Nature's Voices* CD
- *Instruments and Ensembles* CD

The Musikgarten Music and Movement Series

<i>Family Music for Babies</i>	- newborn to 18 months
<i>Family Music for Toddlers</i>	- 15 months to 3 ½ years
<i>The Cycle of Seasons</i>	- 3 to 5 years
<i>Music Makers: At Home & Around the World Music</i>	- 4 to 8 years
<i>Makers: Around the World at the Keyboard Music</i>	- from age 5
<i>Makers: At the Keyboard</i>	- from age 6
<i>Musikgarten Adults: Enjoying the Piano Together</i>	

Additional Programs:

<i>God's Children Sing</i>	<i>Nimble and Quick</i>
<i>My Musical World</i>	<i>Seashore</i>
<i>My Neighborhood Community</i>	<i>Summer</i>
<i>Nature's Music</i>	<i>Twist & Turn</i>
<i>Nature Trail</i>	

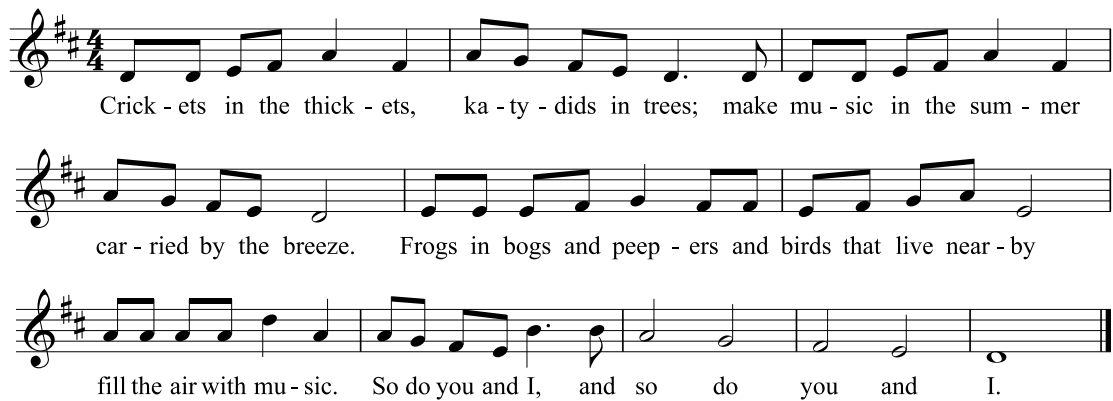
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1. MUSIC MAKERS

Music: Beverly Glenn-Copeland

Text: Aileen Fisher



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.

Recorded by: Children, Flute, Guitar, Bass, Piano

American poet and author Aileen Fisher was commissioned to write this special verse for the *Music Makers* Series. Canadian song writer Beverly Glenn-Copeland wrote the melody and composer Howard Baer has created this 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.

2. MY HOME PLACE

Introduction to the Poster

Look at the *My Home Place* poster which shows housing in an urban setting. Help your child identify places in the picture that are familiar; look for a place that is something like home. Outside the dwellings there are animals, birds and insects; they have to find a home place, too. *Walk* (with your fingers) all around the picture to see who is at home.

3. HOME, SWEET HOME

Aileen Fisher

A hole makes a house
for a worm or a mouse,
a katydid likes a tree.
They don't often roam
because "home, sweet home"
is the pleasantest place to be.

4. OLD BLUE

I raised a dog and his name was Blue, and I
bet - cha five_ dol - lars he's a good 'un too; Go on, Blue, I'm com - in'
too, Go on, Blue, I'm com - in' too.

Vs. 2: Old Blue treed, I went to see,

There sat the possum in a 'simmon tree.

Vs. 3: Possum clumb down on a swingin' limb,

Blue barked at the possum, possum growled at him.

Recorded by: Soprano, MIDI

Listen to the story of the hunting dog, Old Blue, told in the song. Talk with your child about a pet dog you have or whom you know. Try to make up verses about your dog, such as

Vs. 1: "I had a dog and his name was (your dog's name) ..."

Vs. 2: "Old (your dog's name) loved to ride in the car, go downtown and eat ice cream, too."

Feel free to change the melody and the words to fit your story.

5. - 8. MY HOME PLACE SOUNDS: Dog, Indoor Bird, Cats

Listen to the voices of pets. Let your child identify and then locate the animals on the poster. Be sure to imitate each of the sounds vocally.

SUGGESTED HOME ACTIVITIES

The *Parents' Guide to the Activities* booklet has many ideas for ways to make music actively at home. We hope that you will enjoy being a companion for your child as s/he explores the fascinating world of movement and sound.

Most importantly, become well familiar with the recording. The time you and your child spend singing and moving to the music is the best possible preparation for making music part of your family's life, and your child's future.

In addition, here are a few specific suggestions for each week.

Week 1

- Listen to the recording. Keep the recording available to your child. Consider which family times are best for listening, such as in the car, while preparing dinner, before bedtime.
- Choose a favorite song and sing with the whole family.
- Listen for sounds at home, inside and out. Imitate them vocally and identify the source.

Week 2

- Listen to the recording.
- Choose a favorite song and sing with the whole family.
- Play games with Graphic Notation Cards 1 and 2. Draw and sing them. Read about the games on p. 21 and listen to No. 43 on the recording.

Week 3

- Play games with all of the with the Graphic Notation Cards. Draw and sing them.
- Make a drum out of a box or kettle. Play and sing the *Drum Song*.
- Listen to the recording.
- Dance and sing with the whole family.

Week 4

- Play games with the Graphic Notation Cards.
- Compose with the Graphic Notation Cards. Put them in your favorite order. Sing them together. Copy your composition, and put it in your Album.
- Play and sing the *Drum Song*.

Week 5

- Compose with the Graphic Notation Cards. Draw two new cards to add to your blue cards: 1) cut file cards the same size as the blue notation cards; 2) draw a **Long** horizontal line on one card; 3) draw several **Short** horizontal lines on the other. Include these cards in your composition. Sing your composition and then copy it.
- Listen and drum along with *The Tree in the Wood*.
- Look at the trees around your neighborhood. Who is at home?

Week 6

- Listen to Brass Instruments, CD No. 35-40.
- Sing, dance and drum to favorite songs.
- Draw a picture while listening to the *Tree Homes Soundscape*, CD No. 34.

Week 7 Repeat your favorite activities from this unit. Sing and dance every day.

Title	Recording	Page
Brass Instruments: Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone	36-39	18
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Drum Song	16	9
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Helas (Isaac, excerpt)	40	18
Here Comes a Bluebird	11	6
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Hop, Old Squirrel	32	16
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