

Listen to Her Song

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Growing Green: An Early Childhood Look at Ecology through Songs, Stories and Movement

Objective/Goal:

This song is used to help children become aware of their interconnected relationships with all living things.

Educational Impact:

- ✓ Vocabulary
 - ✓ Following directions
 - ✓ Listening skills
 - ✓ Size concepts
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Suggestions for use with the *Songs for Singing and Learning* CDs:

- ✓ "Listen to Her Song"

Procedure and Process:

Preparation

The children should be familiarized through the use of pictures with the animals and plants mentioned in the song; or, in the case of the trees, the actual leaves, needles, or cones. With the use of the pictures, the children should first be asked if they know what animal the illustration depicts. If they don't know, then the name can be told along with the beginning letter of the name. This can be followed with a call and response using the American Sign Language alphabet. For example:

Teacher: *Repeat after me. C is for "cardinal."*

Children: *C is for "cardinal."*

Learn and teach the children the American Sign Language signs for "listen," "song," "mother," and "earth." Learn ASL for some of the other animals mentioned on the song. Meaningful gestures may be used in place of ASL for signs which may be too difficult or abstract, or for words for which there is no known ASL sign. The children can be engaged in the creation of these gestures. Sound effects

may also be added to help bring this song to life. Prepare the children by breaking down the song and its lessons a verse at a time, concentrating on each of the different groups (animals that live on land, animals that fly, animals that live in the water, and so on).

Listen to Her Song

*Listen to the song of our mother earth
Listen to the song of our mother earth
Listen to the song of our mother earth
Listen to her song*

*If the earth (If the earth)
Is our mother (Is our mother)
Then we all (Then we all)
Are sister and brother (Are sister and brother)*

*To the cardinal
And the big black crow
To the robin red-breast
And the little sparrow
To the big gray squirrel
And the white-striped skunk
To the hoppity rabbit
And the little chipmunk
To the fish in the creek
And the jumping green frog
To the tadpole in the spring
The turtle on the log*

*To the ladybug
The firefly up high
To the little black ant
And the butterfly*

*To the wasp and hornet
And the honeybee
Watch them do their work
But let their stingers be*



Variations:

This song can be adapted for specific class use by writing additional verses about different animals, different species of fish, marine life including marine mammals such as whales and dolphins, flowers, plants, and trees. This expands the children’s learning experience and knowledge. Introduce the children to local birds, plants, animals, and marine life to enhance their local awareness. Take them on neighborhood field trips to see all the various plants and animals in their immediate surroundings, take notes, and then write new verses when back together in the classroom. Even dogs and cats can become part of the song.