GRACE AND GRIDS

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A Christmas Sing-Along for Kids

Carols About Jesus — With Tune Tracks



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A Note for Grown-Ups

Every song in this book was chosen the Grace and Grids way: clean words, true stories, and music that points children to Jesus. These are the songs of Sunday school, home altars, and grandparents' knees — the ones that stay in a heart for life.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

- Print the pages you want, one song at a time, or keep the whole book in a binder by the piano, the rocking chair, or the car seat.
- Every song page has the words in big, friendly print, a "Sing it like this" idea (motions, echoes, games), and a strip of pictures to color at the bottom.
- Press play on the tune tracks (in the audio folder of your download) and sing along — the tracks play each tune plainly, like a music box, so young singers can learn it and lead it.
- Short on time? Sing one song a day. Children learn by loving repetition — the tenth time through is when it becomes theirs.

ABOUT THE SONGS & THE TUNES

Every song in this book is public domain or traditional — words and music both — or an original Grace and Grids song written for this series, and each song page credits its writers and dates. The tune tracks are our own recordings, made by Grace and Grids from those public-domain melodies: no one else's performance is included, ever. Where a song's own tune could not be rendered to our standard, the page says "words only" rather than handing you a tune we could not stand behind.

SONG 1

Silent Night

Words: Joseph Mohr, 1818; tr. John Freeman Young, 1859 · Music: Franz Gruber, 1818

VERSE 1

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child.
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

VERSE 2

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ, the Saviour, is born,
Christ, the Saviour, is born.

VERSE 3

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

SING IT LIKE THIS

Sing it last, with the lights low. It was first sung in a little Austrian church on Christmas Eve, 1818, with a guitar.

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 2

Away in a Manger

Words: Anonymous (Philadelphia, 1885); v. 3 John T. McFarland, c. 1904 · Music: James R. Murray, 1887 ("Mueller")

VERSE 1

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

VERSE 2

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

VERSE 3

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

SING IT LIKE THIS

The gentlest carol of all. Fold hands under one cheek like a sleeping baby on "asleep on the hay."

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 3

Joy to the World

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719 · Music: Lowell Mason, 1839 ("Antioch")

VERSE 1

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

VERSE 2

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

VERSE 3

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

VERSE 4

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

SING IT LIKE THIS

The happiest noise in the hymnbook — sing it like you mean it! Watts wrote it from Psalm 98: "Make a joyful noise."

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 4

The First Noel

Traditional English carol (published 1823/1833)

VERSE 1

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel!

VERSE 2

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel!

VERSE 3

And by the light of that same star,
Three Wise Men came from country far;
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel!

SING IT LIKE THIS

We print the first three verses — the angel, the star, and the Wise Men on their way. "Noel" means "Christmas news!" Shout it gladly.

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 5

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739 · Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840, adapted W. H. Cummings

VERSE 1

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

VERSE 2

Christ, by highest heav'n adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

SONG 5 · CONTINUED

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739 · Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840, adapted W. H. Cummings

VERSE 3

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

SING IT LIKE THIS

"Hark" means "listen!" Every verse ends with the angels' announcement — sing those lines biggest of all.

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 6

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Words: John Francis Wade, c. 1751; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1841 · Music: John Francis Wade, c. 1751

VERSE 1

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

VERSE 2

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

VERSE 3

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

SING IT LIKE THIS

A procession song — march around the room while you sing "O come, let us adore Him," and kneel at the end.

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 7

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Traditional African-American spiritual; collected by John Wesley Work Jr., 1909

CHORUS

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

VERSE 1

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

VERSE 2

Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessèd Christmas morn.

SING IT LIKE THIS

This good news could not stay in the stable! Cup your hands like a mountain echo and sing the chorus out loud.

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 8

We Three Kings

Words & Music: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1857 ("Kings of Orient")

VERSE 1

We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

CHORUS

O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to Thy perfect light.

VERSE 2

Glorious now behold Him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Earth to heav'n replies.

SING IT LIKE THIS

Three kings, three gifts, one long journey following a star. Take turns — a different singer for every "O star of wonder!"

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 9

What Child Is This?

Words: William Chatterton Dix, 1865 · Music: "Greensleeves," traditional English, 16th c.

VERSE 1

What Child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap, is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

VERSE 2

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you:
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

VERSE 3

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The Virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

SING IT LIKE THIS

A question-and-answer carol: the first half asks, the second half answers. Sing it gently, like standing at the manger.

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 10

Angels We Have Heard on High

Words: Traditional French; tr. James Chadwick, 1862 · Music: Traditional French ("Gloria")

VERSE 1

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

VERSE 2

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

VERSE 3

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

SING IT LIKE THIS

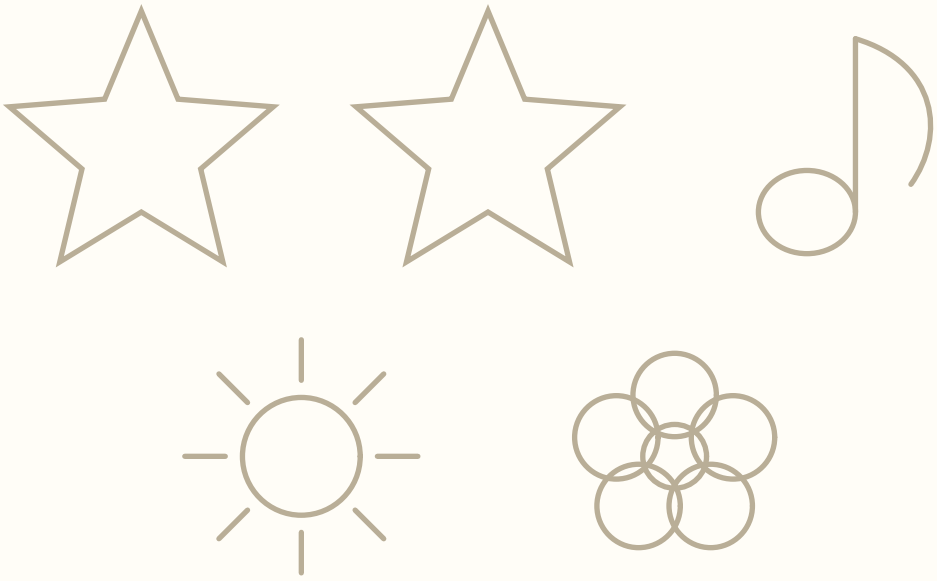
The "Gloria" is one long breath-note — kids love trying to hold it. Take a huge breath and let it roll down like a hill: Glo-o-o-o-ria!

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



Color & Sing!

Color these big pictures while the tune tracks play — then check off every song your family has learned to sing all the way through.



MY FAVORITE SONGS — CHECK THEM OFF!

- ☐ 1. Silent Night
- ☐ 2. Away in a Manger
- ☐ 3. Joy to the World
- ☐ 4. The First Noel
- ☐ 5. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
- ☐ 6. O Come, All Ye Faithful
- ☐ 7. Go Tell It on the Mountain
- ☐ 8. We Three Kings
- ☐ 9. What Child Is This?
- ☐ 10. Angels We Have Heard on High

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SONGS IN THIS BOOK — WORDS & MUSIC CREDITS

1. Silent Night — Words: Joseph Mohr, 1818; tr. John Freeman Young, 1859 · Music: Franz Gruber, 1818
2. Away in a Manger — Words: Anonymous (Philadelphia, 1885); v. 3 John T. McFarland, c. 1904 · Music: James R. Murray, 1887 ("Mueller")
3. Joy to the World — Words: Isaac Watts, 1719 · Music: Lowell Mason, 1839 ("Antioch")
4. The First Noel — Traditional English carol (published 1823/1833)
5. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing — Words: Charles Wesley, 1739 · Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840, adapted W. H. Cummings
6. O Come, All Ye Faithful — Words: John Francis Wade, c. 1751; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1841 · Music: John Francis Wade, c. 1751
7. Go Tell It on the Mountain — Traditional African-American spiritual; collected by John Wesley Work Jr., 1909
8. We Three Kings — Words & Music: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1857 ("Kings of Orient")
9. What Child Is This? — Words: William Chatterton Dix, 1865 · Music: "Greensleeves," traditional English, 16th c.
10. Angels We Have Heard on High — Words: Traditional French; tr. James Chadwick, 1862 · Music: Traditional French ("Gloria")

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