GRACE AND GRIDS

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Jingle Bells!

A Merry Christmas Sing-Along for the Whole Family



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A Note for Grown-Ups

Every song in this book is a wholesome traditional favorite — the nursery, folk, and family songs children have sung for generations, in their clean, classic words.

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

Jingle Bells

Words & Music: James Lord Pierpont, 1857 (“One Horse Open Sleigh”)

VERSE 1

Dashing through the snow
In a one-horse open sleigh,
O’er the fields we go,
Laughing all the way;
Bells on bobtail ring,
Making spirits bright;
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight!

CHORUS

Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way!
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh!
Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way!
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh!

SING IT LIKE THIS

Written for a sleigh race in Massachusetts! Jingle something — keys, bells, a spoon on a cup — through the whole chorus.

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 2

Deck the Halls

Words: Thomas Oliphant, 1862 · Music: Welsh melody "Nos Galan," traditional

VERSE 1

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la;
'Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la;
Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la;
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

VERSE 2

See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa la la la la, la la la la;
Strike the harp and join the chorus,
Fa la la la la, la la la la;
Follow me in merry measure,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la;
While I tell of Yuletide treasure,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

SING IT LIKE THIS

Count the "fa la la"s — there are more than you think. Sing it while the decorating happens, not after!

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 3

Up on the Housetop

Words & Music: Benjamin R. Hanby, 1864

VERSE 1

Up on the housetop, reindeer pause,
Out jumps good old Santa Claus;
Down through the chimney with lots of toys,
All for the little ones, Christmas joys.
Ho, ho, ho! Who wouldn't go!
Ho, ho, ho! Who wouldn't go!
Up on the housetop, click, click, click,
Down through the chimney with good Saint Nick.

SING IT LIKE THIS

"Click, click, click!" — stomp or click tongues on Santa's reindeer hooves. A schoolteacher wrote this one in Ohio.

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 4

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Traditional English carol (the folk version)

VERSE 1

We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year!
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year!

VERSE 2

Now bring us some figgy pudding,
Now bring us some figgy pudding,
Now bring us some figgy pudding
And bring it out here!
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year!

VERSE 3

We won't go until we get some,
We won't go until we get some,
We won't go until we get some,
So bring it out here!
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year!

SING IT LIKE THIS

Carolers sang this at rich folks' doors — and the figgy pudding verse is them cheerfully refusing to leave. Sing it at doors!

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 5

O Christmas Tree (O Tannenbaum)

Words: Ernst Anschütz, 1824 (from a 16th-c. folk song) · Music: traditional German melody

VERSE 1

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
How lovely are thy branches!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
How lovely are thy branches!
Not only green in summer's heat,
But also winter's snow and sleet;
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
How lovely are thy branches!

SING IT LIKE THIS

In German it's "O Tannenbaum." The tree is praised for staying green and faithful all year — sing it to YOUR tree.

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 6

The Twelve Days of Christmas

Traditional English carol (printed 1780)

DAY ONE

On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me
A partridge in a pear tree.

DAY TWO

On the second day of Christmas, my true love gave to me
Two turtle doves,
And a partridge in a pear tree.

DAY THREE

On the third day of Christmas, my true love gave to me
Three French hens, two turtle doves,
And a partridge in a pear tree.

DAY FOUR

On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me
Four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves,
And a partridge in a pear tree.

DAY TWELVE — THE WHOLE PARADE!

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me
Twelve drummers drumming, eleven pipers piping,
Ten lords a-leaping, nine ladies dancing,
Eight maids a-milking, seven swans a-swimming,
Six geese a-laying, five golden rings!
Four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves,
And a partridge in a pear tree.

SING IT LIKE THIS

A memory marathon — we print the first four days to learn, then the famous twelfth day in full. Sing all twelve once you're brave!

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 7

Over the River and Through the Wood

Words: Lydia Maria Child, 1844 · Music: traditional

VERSE 1

Over the river and through the wood,
To Grandfather's house we go;
The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh
Through the white and drifted snow.
Over the river and through the wood,
Oh, how the wind does blow!
It stings the toes and bites the nose
As over the ground we go.

SING IT LIKE THIS

Written about Thanksgiving trips to Grandfather's house — but it sings just as well all winter long. "Hurrah for the pumpkin pie!"

COLOR THE PICTURES WHILE YOU SING:



SONG 8

Auld Lang Syne

Words: Robert Burns, 1788 (from an older Scots song) · Music: traditional Scottish

VERSE 1

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And days of auld lang syne?
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne;
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

SING IT LIKE THIS

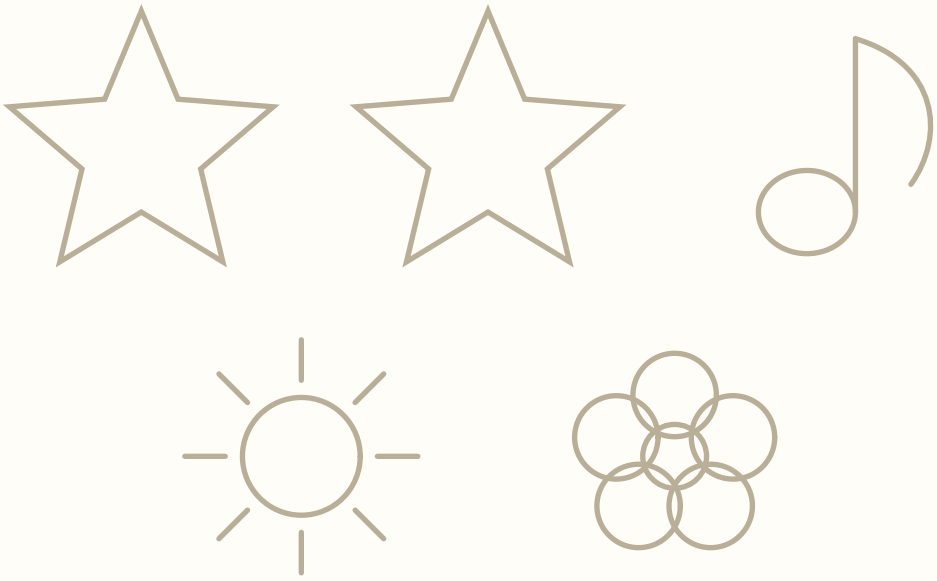
The New Year's Eve song — "for auld lang syne" means "for the sake of old times." Hold hands in a circle at midnight!

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. Jingle Bells
- ☐ 2. Deck the Halls
- ☐ 3. Up on the Housetop
- ☐ 4. We Wish You a Merry Christmas
- ☐ 5. O Christmas Tree (O Tannenbaum)
- ☐ 6. The Twelve Days of Christmas
- ☐ 7. Over the River and Through the Wood
- ☐ 8. Auld Lang Syne

From Grace and Grids

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SONGS IN THIS BOOK — WORDS & MUSIC CREDITS

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