

Using Songs for Teaching EFL or ESL to Children



“I Love the Mountains” (A Round)

Experience and Rationale

Listening to songs in the target language is a great way to get children familiar with the sounds of the language, with words and phrases, and with grammar structures.

This slideshow gives some ideas for using English songs with children for listening but also for singing.

Experience and Rationale

Songs add variety to lessons and can be used as warm-up or closing activities.

Songs provide situated practice for vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation.



Experience and Rationale

Songs may appeal to varied learning styles and multiple intelligences.

Songs involve “tonal memory” for learning.

Children can sing while doing other things, like drawing or coloring.



Experience and Rationale

A **round** is a song where more than one person or more than one group sings the same words with the same tune but starting the lines at different times.

When rounds are sung well, they create beautiful harmony. As a result, singing rounds can be very rewarding for young singers who have no vocal training.

I Love the Mountains

For a good rendition of this song sung as a round, you can visit

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AiOdyCwczac>

This version has pictures that go with the lyric. It is followed by a shooo-wopp version with the musical score, and other versions of children singing this song and "City Life" with actions added.

I Love the Mountains

1. Start by having students listen to the song for words they know.
2. Give each child a picture – of flowers, of mountains, of rolling hills, and so on.
3. Each person lifts his/her picture when it is mentioned in the song.
4. Give each child two or more pictures and repeat the process.

I Love the Mountains

I love the mountains



I love the rolling hills



I Love the Mountains

I love the flowers



I love the daffodils



I Love the Mountains

I love the fireside
When the lights are low



Boom de ah da, Boom de ah da
Boom de ah da, Boom (repeat)

I Love the Mountains

Vocabulary

Mountains



Rolling hills



I Love the Mountains

Vocabulary

Flowers



Daffodils



I Love the Mountains

Vocabulary

Fireside



“When the lights
are low”



I Love the Mountains

I love the



I the love the



I love the



I love the



I love the



when the lights are low

Boom de ah da, Boom de ah da,
Boom de ah da, Boom (repeat).



I Love the Mountains

Language note: Very useful phrase,
depending on the age of the students

I love _____.

Contrast with

I like _____.

I Love the Mountains

This song can be sung as a round.

The second group starts when the first group finishes the first line:

I love the mountains, I love the rolling hills



I Love the Mountains

I hope you find this slideshow to be helpful.



Please feel free to change it in any way that would be useful for you and your students.