



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving



The Starbugs Sing 10 Great Kiwi Kidsongs



Activity Notes

Activity Notes to accompany the UCA album *The Starbugs Sing 10 Great Kiwi Kidsongs*

Page. 1

Available free courtesy of Universal Children's Audio, award-winning children's music. Copyright © 2007 Universal Children's Audio
Visit our web site for more fun activities, music samples, and free downloads: www.ucamusic.com email: info@ucamusic.com



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving



Using this Album - Karaoke Singing

These songs, pitched to suit children's singing, are well known across New Zealand through being originally included in *Kiwi Kidsongs*. The songs are great for classroom singing, stage productions, plus they are excellent repertoire for singing teachers, and fun to sing at home or in the car. For user-friendliness, instrumental backing tracks are included on the album for karaoke singing. Feel free to use these lyrics as OHP masters. Suggestions for each song follow the lyrics.

Kiwi Kidsongs

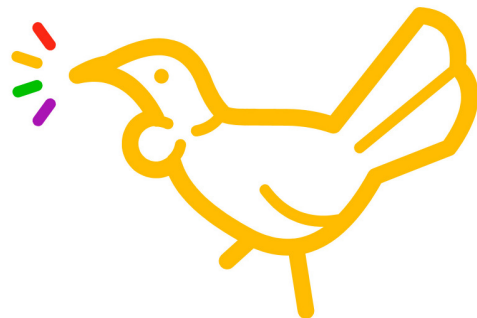
Over the past fifteen years, New Zealand's *Ministry of Education* have funded *Learning Media* to produce the national classroom-singing resource, *Kiwi Kidsongs*. Each year a fresh album of bright, new children's songs, composed and performed by New Zealanders writers and artists, is sent free of charge to schools across the country, together with a book of teaching notes.

Universal Children's Audio have been contracted each year to record the series, which has become extremely popular with children and teachers alike. Over the years our two UCA composers' songs have been included in the *Kiwi Kidsongs* albums. This is a selection composed by Radha Sahar, and re-recorded with permission from Learning Media. Its companion album, *Never Hitch a Ride with a Martian*, also sung by the Starbugs, features songs composed by David Antony Clark.

The Starbugs

Our talented children's group, *The Starbugs*, perform on several of our albums. Their first recording, *Kids Sing Beatles*, is one of our most popular recordings. Because children grow up so fast, the individual members of *The Starbugs* vary from album to album. Having been auditioned to enter the group, the children work hard in the studio as professional session singers, knowing that they are role models for many children in the community. We hope you enjoy their excellent singing – and if your child shows promise, why not submit a home recording of their singing? (address on our website).

Find more Singing & Fun resources
on our website: www.ucamusic.com



Activity Notes to accompany the UCA album *The Starbugs Sing 10 Great Kiwi Kidsongs*

Page. 2

Available free courtesy of Universal Children's Audio, award-winning children's music. Copyright © 2007 Universal Children's Audio
Visit our web site for more fun activities, music samples, and free downloads: www.ucamusic.com email: info@ucamusic.com



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving



Track 1

Hey Crocodile

by Radha Sahar

- Verse 1* Now Mama Crocodile is a cool, cool dude
She's a Beatle fan, she says "Hey Jude!"
Rolls her belly to the Beatle beat
And then she says "Let's eat!"
Rumble, rumble, rumble, digest... little rest
- Verse 2* Now Daddy Crocodile is a cool, cool bro
He's an M.C. fan, he says "Yo!"
Rolls his belly to the Hamer beat
And then he says "Let's eat!"
Rumble, rumble, rumble, digest... little rest
- Chorus 1* Hey crocodile! Cool crocodile! (x2)
But don't go messin' with the crocodile beat
Or you're ... dead meat!
- Verse 3* Baby Crocodile is a cool, cool star
She's a disco fan, she says "Farr...!"
Rolls her belly to the disco beat
And then she says "Let's eat!"
Rumble, rumble, rumble, digest... little rest
- Chorus 2* Hey crocodile! Cool crocodile! (x2)
But don't go crusiin' when those critters are about
Or it's... lights out!
- Chorus 3* Hey crocodile! Cool crocodile! (x2)
But don't go making a crocodile friend
Or it's... THE END!



Activity Notes

This rock song has spoken comments with the singing; mentally count the beats when singing karaoke. 'Little rest' is musical as well as literal – discuss the rest in this song and in general.

Actions: Clap along, then roll belly. Clap two beats between 'She says' and 'Let's eat.' 'Rub tummy on 'digest,' then stretch and yawn on 'little rest.' In the chorus, clap on first two lines. Hands on hips on 'Don't go messin'...' Two claps in gap between 'you're...' and 'dead meat'. The 'crocodile clap' imitates jaws – extend arms to the front. Clap is vertical, not horizontal. Great to dance to!

Recordings Originally on *Kiwi Kidsongs 3* (Learning Media).

Activity Notes to accompany the UCA album *The Starbugs Sing 10 Great Kiwi Kidsongs*

Page. 3

Available free courtesy of Universal Children's Audio, award-winning children's music. Copyright © 2007 Universal Children's Audio
Visit our web site for more fun activities, music samples, and free downloads: www.ucamusic.com email: info@ucamusic.com



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving

Track 2

I've Got the Greens

by Radha Sahar

- Verse 1
I tried the greys, I tried the browns
And like the blues, they bring me down
I tried them all, but I've come clean
I've got the greens
- Verse 2
I like my purples, I like my pinks
But the blues, I think they stink
Give me a yellow, but I'll still dream
I've got the greens
- Chorus
Chorus 'Cos green she can grow me a garden
Green she can wrap around the hills
Green's gonna save our planet
'Cos Mother Earth, she needs her green pills! – (*feelin' seedy?...*)
- Verse 3
Those reds and oranges are real hot
And golds and silvers, yes I like them a lot
But those blues, they spoil my scene
I've got the greens ... *Chorus*
- Verse 4
No more blue days, no more groaning
I'm goin' new ways – no more moaning
I'm reaching out to life
I've got the greens

Find more Exploring Nature resources
on our website: www.ucamusic.com



Activity Notes

This humorous song has been extremely popular over the years. It flows very well for classroom singing, and people enjoy the light-hearted lyrics and the ecological message: the comment, '*feelin' seedy?*' is a pun referring to planting seeds rather than the traditional blues meaning. Use the above lyrics as an OHP master.

Recordings Originally on *Kiwi Kidsongs 2* (Learning Media). This new version is in the key of C – making it easier to sing.



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving

Track 3

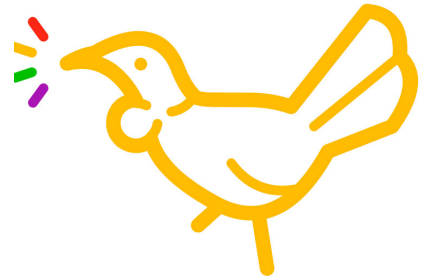


The Library Song

by Radha Sahar

- Verse 1* Hen says... Are hens allowed in the library?
Cos I want to go to the library
Are hens allowed in the library? I want a story!
- Chorus 1* Book, pook, pook, pook, such a lot of books! (x3)
I want a story!! ... Shhhhhhh!!!
- Verse 2* Frog says... Are frogs allowed in the library?
Cos I want to go to the library
Are frogs allowed in the library? I want a story!
- Chorus 2* Read-it, read-it, read a lot of books! (x3)
I WANT A STORY!! ... Shhhhhhh!!!
- Verse 3* Baby says... Goo ga.goo ga! Library! (x3)
Me want story!
- Chorus 3* Ga, ga, boo(k) boo(k), ga, ga, boo(k) (x3)
ME WANT STORY!!!! ... Shhhhhhh!!!
- Chorus 4* Book, pook, pook, pook, such a lot of books
Read-it, read-it, read a lot of books!
Ga, ga, boo(k) boo(k), ga, ga, boo (k) (x3)
ME WANT STORY!!!! ... Shhhhhhh!!!

Find more Singing & Dancing resources
on our website: www.ucamusic.com



Activity Notes

Children love the humour and drama in this song. The extremes of volume and expression provide excellent opportunities for developing vocal skills for 'character' singing. The pauses provide good opportunities for singers to keep count of the pulse, and develop timing skills. 'Boo' in chorus 3, is pronounced as in 'book' but without the 'k'

Recordings Originally on *Kiwi Kidsongs 9* (Learning Media). On this version the lead singer is a female, which offers another choice of mood to the original recording.



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving



Track 4



Down to the Country

by Radha Sahar

Verse 1 I got band-aids on my knees, from falling on the concrete
I'd rather play up in the hay instead
Too many buildings and too much city noise
And the traffic noise goes right to my head

Chorus Goin' down to the country, where it's quiet and where it's green
Leavin' town for the country. Goin' down the farm, down to the country

Verse 2 Spent my money on junk food, down at the corner dairy
I'd rather feel a square meal in my belly
Too many people and smart kids at my school
All they talk about is what they watch on tele!

Chorus

Verse 3 My cousin knows all the breeds of sheep,
And how to milk the cows
I'd rather learn that than all this blah, blah, blah
I'm puttin' on m' gumboots. The country life's for me
Gonna chew some hay and play on my guitar!

Chorus

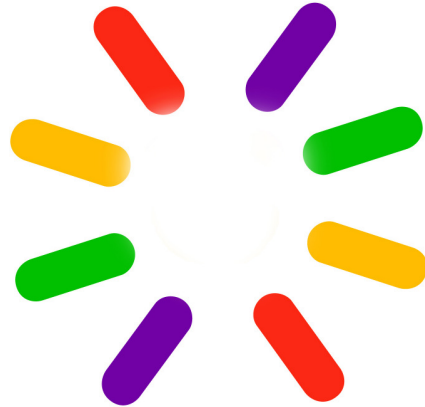
Activity Notes

This song has been extremely popular over the years. It flows very well for classroom singing, and people enjoy the light-hearted lyrics. Use the above lyrics as an OHP master. Divide the group in two. In the chorus, one group sings lead and the other, the echo.

Recordings Originally on *Kiwi Kidsongs 1* (Learning Media).

Features of this, the UCA version

- In the higher key of D – making it easier to sing the lowest notes.
- Added low harmony gives a comfortable option for some singers in the choruses.



Activity Notes to accompany the UCA album *The Starbugs Sing 10 Great Kiwi Kidsongs*

Page. 6

Available free courtesy of Universal Children's Audio, award-winning children's music. Copyright © 2007 Universal Children's Audio
Visit our web site for more fun activities, music samples, and free downloads: www.ucamusic.com email: info@ucamusic.com



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving



Track 5

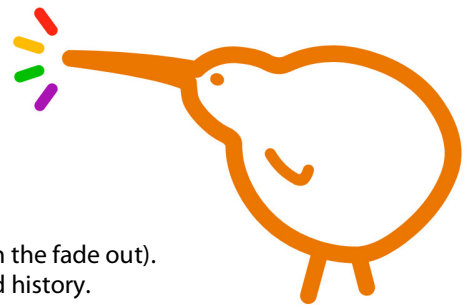


Yesterday Tomorrow

by Radha Sahar

- Verse 1* Long long ago in the light of the dawning
The sun could only greet all the fishes in the water
And the birds in the trees that grew close around the harbour
The rocks and the earth and the sand
- Verse 2* Then came a time in the mists of the morning
The ancestors came from their lands across the water
The earth gave them food, and from the bush they took their shelter
They paid back their debts to Te Whaea Papatuanuku
From their spirit...
- Chorus* Aotearoa – yesterday, tomorrow - Hei mahi kotahi tatau
Aotearoa – yes, we're here together, the people the land and the sea
- Verse 3* Centuries passed and the tribes cried a warning
The settlers, they came from their homes across the water
The good and the bad – in the past and of today
Now we question the rights and the wrongs ... *Chorus*
- Verse 4* The sun greets the faces in the dawn of tomorrow
The buildings and the hills – are there fishes in the water?
Our future's made today. Remember where we came from
We must pay our debts and heal our ways together
The time is now

Find more Celebrating cultures resources
on our website: www.ucamusic.com



Activity Notes

Sing in unison. Some singers may wish to follow chorus harmonies.
During the verses, a small group could tap sticks (to the pattern modelled in the fade out).
Use the song to stimulate discussion on cultural & environmental issues and history.

Recordings Originally written for Porirua City Council 1990 celebrations, and recorded for *Kiwi Kidsongs 2* (Learning Media). Now acknowledged as the Official Song of Porirua City.

Activity Notes to accompany the UCA album *The Starbugs Sing 10 Great Kiwi Kidsongs*

Page. 7

Available free courtesy of Universal Children's Audio, award-winning children's music. Copyright © 2007 Universal Children's Audio
Visit our web site for more fun activities, music samples, and free downloads: www.ucamusic.com email: info@ucamusic.com



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving



Track 6

Lazy Day

by Radha Sahar

- Verse 1* Out on the water the sun is high
Gently row now and then
Drift on the current and watch the sky
Drift and row again
- Chorus* Lazy day, summer day, lazy day
Lazy day, summer day, lazy day
- Verse 2* Follow your dreams to a magic land
Where all your dreams are coming true
Under green willows and golden sand
The river's calling you
- Instrumental, with humming*
- Chorus x 2*

Activity Notes

A wistful, lilting song in $\frac{3}{4}$ time, *Lazy Day* is an excellent song for relaxation or to calm the class down. The chord sequence is such that the tonic note (A), can be played throughout the whole song. This makes it inviting for beginner instrument-players. Use the above lyrics as an OHP master for class singing.

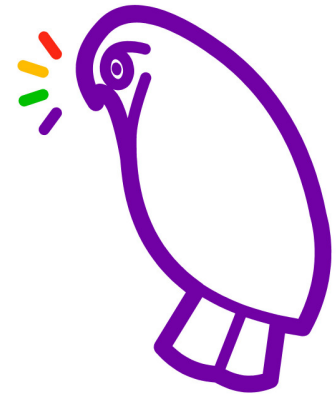
As a creative writing exercise, suggest students write an extra verse of their own – either in pairs, groups or alone. Speak the words of verse one first, emphasising the lilting three beat rhythm. The new verse could be sung over the instrumental section.

Recordings *Kiwi Kidsongs 13* (Learning Media).

The original version was in the key of C so children could play it on tuned percussion. That had one, repeated verse so young children could easily learn and sing along.

Features of this UCA Version

- In the lower key of A - easier for older students and boys to sing.
- Vocal harmonies have been added for extended learning, plus an intriguing three-note line to hum during the instrumental verse.
- An added extra verse further develops the song poetically for older children.



Find more Rest & Relaxation resources on our website: www.ucamusic.com



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving



Track 7

Just Love

by Radha Sahar

- Verse 1* What do kids really want round here?
Find out with the 'Just Love' questionnaire
If you like a thing, go 'Yey! If you don't like it then say (groan)...
- Chorus* We just love grumpy people (groan) We just love eating ice cream (Yey!)
We just love doing dishes (groan) We just love trampolines (Yey!)
But when it's friends & family, get together and it's 'we just love!'
- Verse 2* There are two ways of going about
Getting what you want: ① Scream and shout
But nobody likes a moaner so
② Try the 'Just Love' option bro!... (Chorus)
- Verse 3* Down home, looked around, what did I see?
Everyone blobbed out watching TV
Said "What do kids really want around here?
Fill out the 'Just Love' questionnaire!"
- Verse 4* Say positive words! – what it is you like
No need to scream, no need to fight
No need to push, no need to shove
Just stand up and say what you love! ... (Chorus)
- Chorus 2* We just love doing homework (groan) We just love riding bikes (Yey!)
We just love eating our onions (groan) We just love what we like (Yey!)
But when it's friends & family, get together and it's 'we just love!'

Activity Notes

This N.Z. rap song was first written in 1990 – before rap became a musical genre. With a combination of rap verses, sung choruses, and shouted responses, it offers an opportunity to divide the class into several groups – one for each task. As a variation, a number of soloists could rap individual lines taking turn one after the other in the verses. Use the above lyrics as an OHP master for class singing.

Recordings Originally on *Kiwi Kidsongs 1* (Learning Media).

Features of the UCA Version

- Revised lyrics update the song, make it more positive and strengthen subject matter.
- Lower key makes the choruses easier to sing.
- A new harmony adds interest in the choruses, and gives an option for lower voices.

Activity Notes to accompany the UCA album *The Starbugs Sing 10 Great Kiwi Kidsongs*

Page. 9

Available free courtesy of Universal Children's Audio, award-winning children's music. Copyright © 2007 Universal Children's Audio
Visit our web site for more fun activities, music samples, and free downloads: www.ucamusic.com email: info@ucamusic.com



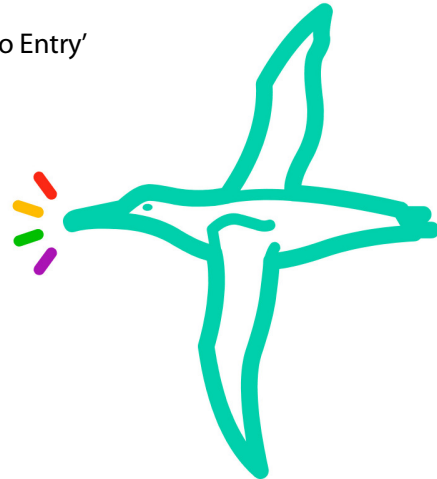
Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving

Track 8

Two Legged Mice

by Radha Sahar

Chorus	Watch out all you two legged mice Two legged mice in the pantry A sign on the door says 'Danger Zone, R16 – No Entry' But there must be a hole in the wall They've got in and they've eaten all...
Verse 1	The bread and cheese...
Verse 2	The chocolate cake
Verse 3	The rhubarb scones
Verse 4	The garlic jam
Verse 5	The toenail soup
Verse 6	The dandruff pie
Verse 7	The eyeball stew



Find more Developing Imagination resources
on our website: www.ucamusic.com

Activity Notes

This fun 'add on a verse' song develops memory skills and imagination. It is easy to sing. Discuss the title (to pronounce 'leggéd' & to realise the 'mice' are kids). Introduce 'character singing,' with singers inventing their own characters, expressing each one through the way they sing.

Note how the song starts with normal food and graduates to yuk-fantasy foods. Children can make up their own foods to sing about. When singing unaccompanied or live with guitar, the song can go on as long as you like.

At level one in the NZ Arts curriculum, *Two Legged Mice* fulfils the following:

- 'Listen to music that has a wide range of sounds'
- 'Imitate rhythmic and melodic patterns'
- 'use a wide variety of sounds and movements to enhance ... song'
- 'Use voices to explore contrasts between sounds'

Recordings Originally on *Music Cartoons* (UCA) then *Kiwi Kidsongs 14* (Learning Media).

Features of the UCA Version

- *Kiwi Kidsongs 14* has a re-recorded version, so the UCA version is the original one.
The key of C, on both versions, is ideal for voice and guitar.

Activity Notes to accompany the UCA album *The Starbugs Sing 10 Great Kiwi Kidsongs*

Page. 10

Available free courtesy of Universal Children's Audio, award-winning children's music. Copyright © 2007 Universal Children's Audio
Visit our web site for more fun activities, music samples, and free downloads: www.ucamusic.com email: info@ucamusic.com



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving

Track 9



Copycat Rap

by Radha Sahar

- Verse 1* Copy me cat! ... Come on and rap! ...
 Copy that boogie ... Copy that clap ...
 Fingers that click ... And feet that tap ...
 Twist your tongue round the copycat rap, yeah
 Rap, rap, copycat, copycat rap! ...
- Verse 2* Copy me cat! ... Come on and rap! ...
 Put a bit o' rhythm ... In the gap ...
 Be a drum machine ... Pow! and Zap! ...
 Bounce your lips round the copycat rap, yeah
 Rap, rap, copycat, copycat rap! ...
- Maori* Takahia o wae wae! ... Takahia o wae wae! ...
 Papaki mai o matimati ...
- Samoan* Si' i lou lima! ... Si' i lou lima! ...
 Siva, siva, siva ... Siva, siva, siva ...
- High voice* Copy me cat! ... Come on and rap! ...
Low voice Copy me cat! ... Come on and rap! ...
Quiet voice Copy me cat! ... Come on and rap! ...
 OH YEAH? ... We're DONE! ... OVER and OUT! ...



Activity Notes

Children love this 'echo' rap. The challenge comes during the long lines at the end of verses 1 & 2. These require careful listening and memory, so children enjoy this challenge. Express extremes dramatically on last 5 lines.

At level one in the NZ Arts curriculum, *Copycat Rap* fulfils the following:

- 'Listen to music that has a wide range of sounds'
- 'Imitate rhythmic and melodic patterns'
- 'Use a wide variety of sounds and movements to enhance ... song'
- 'Use voices to explore contrasts between sounds'

Recordings Originally on *Kiwi Kidsongs 6* (Learning Media). Features of the UCA Versions:

Male lead vocal creates a 'today' mood. Both this and the Learning Media versions are multi-lingual, while the version on *Kids Just Wanna Have Fun* (UCA) is in English



Activity: Singing & Fun
Related Activity: Dancing & Moving



Track 10



Kiwi Kids (r Rockin' it)

D. A. Clark & J. Marriott

Verse 1

Now the game begins
As the spotlight beams upon us you can see us centre stage
We're your kids, your hope. We're the heroes of the future
We're the new, unwritten page
The time has come around at last for us to show the world that...

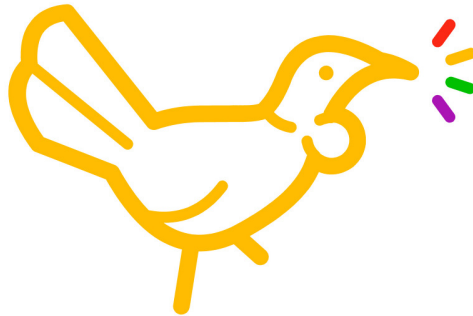
Chorus

Kiwi kids are rockin' it, rockin' it
Kiwi kids are tops
Kiwi kids are living it, living it
Look what we've got
Kids can do anything, anything
Give it a try
Kiwi kids are rockin' it, rockin' it
Just watch us fly!

Verse 2

Now the game begins
You can see us from the sidelines, we are in the winning team
We're the best there is, we can take it to the limit
We can live our wildest dreams!
The time has come around at last for us to show the world that...

Chorus



Activity Notes

Children across New Zealand continue to vote this their #1 'Kiwi Kidsong'. It was written as a theme for Learning Media's *Kiwi Kidsongs* series, so it really has hit the spot! Great for mass, high-energy singing and for boosting morale. Great song for your sports team!

Recordings Originally recorded for *Kiwi Kidsongs 2* (Learning Media).

Activity Notes to accompany the UCA album *The Starbugs Sing 10 Great Kiwi Kidsongs*

Page. 12

Available free courtesy of Universal Children's Audio, award-winning children's music. Copyright © 2007 Universal Children's Audio
Visit our web site for more fun activities, music samples, and free downloads: www.ucamusic.com email: info@ucamusic.com