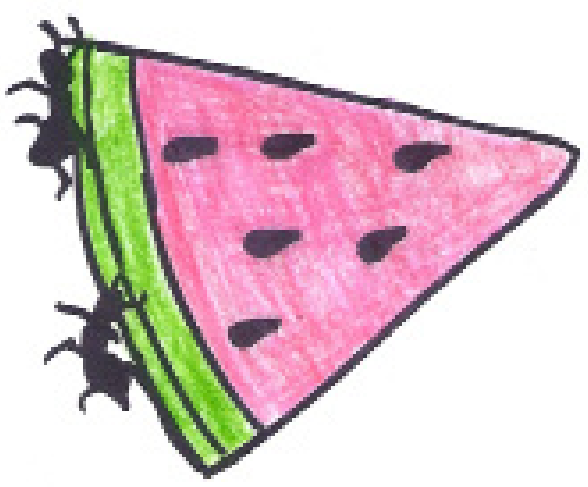
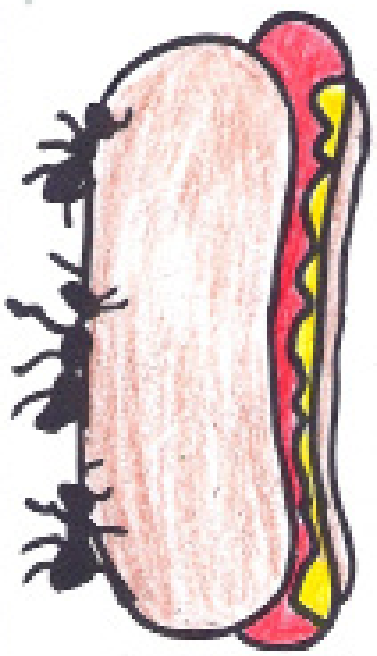


Mr. Pinyon
mrpinyon.com

The Picnic





OVERVIEW

What's the best thing to do on a warm summer day? Have a picnic! Join the children on this musical journey across a lake to enjoy a Picnic. There we'll all have fun as the children sing, dance, swing, and play.

Mr. Rhythm's musical journey, **THE PICNIC**, recreates all the things that are wonderful about a gorgeous summer day. Going on a rowboat ride; playing games together; swinging on swings; digging in the sand; and watching ducks swim, bunnies hop, and the clouds float by, are all parts of this endearing musical journey that will bring to life the adventure of a picnic outing.

The script contains a number of songs that have a common form. Each song is labeled according to whether it *should* be included (standard) or *may* be included (optional).

Each song is divided into three sections: introductory "lines," a song, and accompanying movement. The lines may be spoken by individual children, pairs of children in unison, or an adult narrator. For very young children, the number of lines should be reduced, spoken by an adult narrator, or omitted altogether.

You should examine the script carefully in light of the needs and abilities of your particular group, and adapt it to capitalize on the talents and strengths of your students. Choose the most outspoken and confident children in your group to be Mr. Rhythm (male or female). Mr. Rhythm can be played by different children throughout the program. Children who are not comfortable participating may be paired with others, or permitted to "watch" as part of the audience.

We realize that all performance spaces are different, so you will see "original formation" used in the directions. This is the formation of the children that works best for your space, i.e. a line, or an arc, etc. All props that are used in this should be readily available on the side of the "performance area" for children to pick up and distribute as needed in each song.

And now, welcome to The Picnic!



This program is to be taught over a period of days or weeks. The time you spend each day is up to the teacher and the time required to teach the program to the children will vary based upon the skill and age level of the group. As the songs are easy to learn, the amount of time necessary to prepare is based on how detailed you make the final performance. The total estimated performance time is 35 minutes, including transitions between songs. Music with the children's voices should be used for all rehearsals. During the performance, the songs with the children's voices singing in the background may or may not be used, depending upon the confidence of your group. The vocal tracks were specifically created not to overpower the true stars, your students.

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SCRIPT

INTRODUCTION (Optional)

(The performance area is ready for the Musical Journey, the Picnic! The children line up in order off to the side, ready to enter the performance area when given a cue by the Teacher.)

Narrator: It's a beautiful day! The sun is shining brightly and it will be very hot.

(All children enter happily from the side in single file, excited for the chance to have a picnic. They stand across the front of the performing area, facing the audience, in their original formation.)

Child: What shall we do outside?

Child: Let's wish for Mr. Rhythm.

**ALL: To share some fun,
To sing some songs,
To visit some place new;
Please, Mr. Rhythm, take us
On a Musical Journey with you!**

(**Suggested Action:** The children all join hands and chant the above in unison. Mr. Rhythm is waiting on either side of the performance area.)



MEET MR RHYTHM'S PICNIC

(Standard)

(Start Track #1 (Vocals) "The Knock Sound Effect" (optional))
(Start Track #22 (Instrumental) "The Knock Sound Effect" (optional))

(A knock on the door is heard. Mr. Rhythm happily enters from the side, wearing his red coat and hat, and carrying a marching baton (outfit optional). He waves to the children and the audience.)

Mr. Rhythm: Hi everybody!

ALL: Hi Mr. Rhythm!

(Start Track #2 (Vocal) "Meet Mr. Rhythm's Picnic")
(Start Track #23 (Instrumental) "Meet Mr. Rhythm's Picnic")

**Meet Mr. Rhythm,
he's as happy as can be,
he wants to go with you and me.
Put on your smile, we're on our way.
we'll go with him on a picnic today.
Put on your smile, we're on our way,
we'll go with him on a picnic today.**

(Suggested action: Mr. Rhythm enters from the side of the performance area upon the knock. The children are standing in their original formation facing the audience. During the first part of the song, Mr. Rhythm begins shaking hands with the other children and waves. The other children wave back to Mr. Rhythm. During the repeat, on the first two lines of the song, the children gesture to Mr. Rhythm with outstretched hands. Mr. Rhythm and the children point to the audience on "with you" and to themselves on "me." They give big smiles to the audience on "Put on your smile." The children circle Mr. Rhythm during "We're on our way, We'll go with him on a picnic today" and during the repeat of those two rhymed lines. At the end of the song, they return to their original formation.)