How-to... Songs



Here is an example of an adapted song, aimed at very young learners. The topic is Space and the unit of work covered 8 space related words. The song, to the tune of a techno-rap Frère Jacques, allows the practice and revision of these 8 words, as well as numbers 1 to 6.



The choice of a techno-rap version of Frère Jacques adds to the fun: learners are encouraged to speak or shout the words, rather than sing, and have a go at rapping.

If pupils have not learnt all the words, they can try to guess what the words mean using the pictures, and then join in with the numbers.

The class can be divided into small groups, with each group singing a different line. The use of flashcards for all words and numbers covered will support the learning. Those can be handed to the pupils who then hold up their card when they hear their word.

Alternatively, learners can show their understanding of the song by doing mimes for each key word which they have been taught.

Older learners can try to remember the order of the words in the song and order the images correctly.

There are of course many other ways the song can be used. Very young learners can initially simply listen to the song for enjoyment and be encouraged to say or show whether they like it or not & why – using thumbs up or down. They can also simply dance to the music.

Practitioners can also play the song as background music for games, such as Pass the parcel. And of course, learners can make up their own songs.

Have fun!