

# BEST "BANG FOR YOUR BUCK" SONGS

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## ★ Hey, Hey Look at Me - Kindergarten

- Movement
- ★ Instruments - "I am playing..."
- ★ Concepts:
  - BEAT!!
  - Rhythm - introduction to ta and ti-ti (no rests yet)
    - [Beat and Rhythm Projectables](#)
    - [Beat and Rhythm Interactives](#)
  - Melody - introduction to so-mi
    - [Prepare Solfa Interactives](#)
    - [Interactive Tone Ladder](#)
    - **Assess so-mi singing and signing**

## Introducing so-mi \*\*\*

- 1) Sing song with actions
- 2) Does this song start with a high sound or a low sound? (high)
- 3) Start with arms reached above head, move high and low as you sing
- 4) Next class:
  - a) Sing with actions
  - b) Does this song start high/low? Whole body movement as per last class
  - c) Sit - let's just show high and low with our arms this time
- 5) Next class:
  - a) Sing with actions
  - b) Does this song start high/low? Arm movements only
  - c) Introduce so and mi - So - mirror in front of face **"So**, am I ever good looking?" (move it over beside your smile)

**Mi**- with a flat hand in front of tummy, thumb points to **ME!!**

\*\*\* Use same process at the beginning of Grade 2 with "Engine Engine"

## Writing so and mi - Staff Tool

- 1) Introduce : high and low lines/ so and mi lines
- 2) Put symbols or circles on the lines to show melodic direction

3) After several classes introduce the five line staff with the so-mi lines being the bottom two lines

- Later - create your own melody with Melody Composition Tool

4) Rules:

- If so is on a line, then mi is on a line, and everything is fine! (sing and sign with so-mi)
- If so is on a space, then mi is on a space, and see my happy face! (sing and sign with so-mi)

### ★ **Other so-mi/ ta ti-ti winners**

- Counting Song - K & Gr. 1 ("tie my shoe")
- Bye Lo Baby Oh
- Rain, Rain
- Starlight
- Engine, Engine - Gr. 2

★ And the one song which EVERYONE will sing... "Magic Spell" - alternatively "I Can Pretend"

### ★ **I Like You** - aka "Bow Wow Wow", "Ho Ho Ho"

- Grade 1 -
  - Fabulous Valentines game
  - After Valentines, change it to a friendship song: "Will you be a friend of mine?"
  - Use "Bow Wow Wow" anytime; also in French!
  - Phrases - same and different
  - Rhythm - ta, ti-ti, rest
- Grade 2 - introduce re - there's only one!
  - They love to revisit the game
- Grade 3 - read and write re - there's only one!

### ★ **Bounce High**

- Grade 2
- Melody - words in the song match melodic contour - "Bounce high, bounce low"
- Use early in the year to review s-m-l
- Beat- tennis balls - start with imaginary ones!
  - LOTS of discussion re: expected behaviour; have a **resting position**!
- Introduce strong and weak beats (bounce on strong)
- Rhythm - ta and ti-ti (no rests)
- Rhyming words - create words to rhyme with "Mexico"

- “Bounce high, bounce low. Don’t bounce it on your toe!”

### ★ Other s-m-l winners

- Snail Snail
- Plainsies Clapsies
- Find the (Easter) Yellow Basket
- Doggie Doggie - Grade 3 recorders - “Doggie Doggie what’s that note?”
- Little Tommy Tiddlemouse

### ★ We Like Playing Games Together

- Grade 2 and 3
- Introduce do - there’s only one and it’s the last note!
  - If so is on a line, then mi is on a line, and **do is on a line**, and everything is fine! (sing and sign with so-mi)
  - If so is on a space, then mi is on a space, and **do is on a space**, and see my happy face! (sing and sign with so-mi)
- Rhythm review - ta, ti-ti, rest
- What to do when students are “out”?
  - Play an instrument on the rhyming words!!
  - Choose a tempo
  - Clap a flashcard rhythm
  - Do a silly challenge

### ★ Other “do” winners:

- Bee Bee Bumblebee
- Pease Porridge Hot
- Johnny One Hammer
- Apples, Peaches, Pears and Plums

### ★ Apple Tree - Grade 1 - experience do; accompany a **story/ play** with instruments

- Beat keeping game
- Grade 2 - introduce and reinforce do
  - Choose tempo and keep beat
- Check out new materials on MPO - Bobo; Bobo with tone ladder; interactives

### ★ Hot Cross Buns - What can I say? It works!!

- Grade 1 - ta, ti-ti, rest rhythms; easy clapping game
- Grade 2 - experience re; step-wise melody; more challenging clapping game
- Grade 3 or 4 - Seven Up game; recorders (of course!!!)

### ★ Sixteenth notes - Had a Chicken - fun and chaotic game - don’t use your best egg shakers!! Maybe rubber chickens from Dollar Tree?? Revisit for eighth-dotted

quarter and syncopa.

- **Playing in the House** - pentatonic; review instrument families; rondo form

★ **Skin and Bones** - SO MUCH!

- 3/4 or 6/8 time
- Low la
- Minor key
- Rhythm - dotted half note (3/4 time); dotted quarter note (6/8 time).
  - Teach conducting
- Recorder - slurs vs. ties; Sing first phrase, play second phrase, or Sing note names, play second phrase
- Game Ideas: Students lay on the ground with eyes closed. Play the song. As the song plays, the teacher walks around and taps 2-3 students to leave the classroom (use a pool noodle). At the end of the song, students open their eyes and guess who is missing.
- One old woman, one ghost. All sing. Old woman tries to find ghost. If not found, ghost says, "Boo" at the end.
- One chord uke or guitar song
- Orff
- Boomwhackers

★ **Built My Lady**

- Pentatonic
- Rhythm - tika-ti; single eighth note and eighth rest
- Love this game!

★ **Chester**

- Ti ti-ka; ti-ka ti
- Melody - low do, la, ti
- Tempo activities
- **Tempo Interactive** - check out the tempo posters

★ **La Bamba**- [Musicplay Link](#)

- Kids LOVE this song right now with it being the Edmonton Oiler's theme
- Cinco de Mayo [Online Module](#)
- [About the song Link](#)
- Bucket Drumming [Musicplay Link](#), [Sammy Foster](#), [MusiPress](#)
- [Ukulele](#), [Ukulele 2](#)
- [About Ritchie Valens](#), [Ritchie Valens Bio](#)
- [Excerpt from Movie](#)
- [Dance along for younger kids](#)

★ **Scoo Be Doo-** [Musicplay Link](#)

- Connects to Jazz genre and scatting
- Fun to sing - [kids link](#)
- Activity #7 in Learning Modules- [LINK](#)
- play the ostinato patterns on barred instruments or Boomwhackers.- I taught my Grade 6's on barred instruments and they loved it! [Musicplay Video Link](#)
- Actions/round singing- for younger grades - YouTube
- [Ukulele arrangement](#)

★ **Mango Walk**

- Rhythm - syncopation (ti ta ti)
- Form - First & second ending, Pick-up note
- Note reading - Key Signature
- Connects to [steel pan drums](#)
- Interactive Activities Solfa, Note, Rhythm
- Orff and [djembe](#) arrangement
- YouTube - good demo's of vocal ostinato, syncopation and dance
- Ukulele arrangement (F & C7)

★ **What a Wonderful World**

- Connects to Jazz genre
- Ukulele - suggest key of C
- Book: Just a Lucky So and So: The Story of Louis Armstrong
- Book: What A Wonderful World