

Yankee Doodle



Yank - ee Doo - dle went to town a - rid - ing on a po - ny,
Stuck a feath - er in his cap and called it mac - a - ro - ni.
Yank - ee Doo - dle keep it up, Yank - ee Doo - dle dan - dy,
Mind the mu - sic and the step and with the girls be han - dy.

Lyrics: Yankee Doodle went to town a-riding on a pony.
Stuck a feather in his cap and called it macaroni.
Yankee Doodle keep it up, Yankee Doodle dandy,
Mind the music and the step and with the girls be handy.

SINGING –

- Sing the song and clap the beat
- Sing the song and walk the beat
- Sing the song, step the beat, and clap the rhythmic pattern (the words)
- Sing the song, step the beat and turn with each new phrase
- Sing and move with the entire song this way
- First line of four beats – sing
- Second line – step the beat
- Third line – put in your inner hearing
- Fourth line – clap the rhythmic pattern

Fifth line – sing

Sixth line – step the beat

Seventh line – put in your inner hearing

Eighth line – clap the rhythmic pattern (How many beats to this song?)

PLAYING -

Divide the class into three groups. Assign instruments to groups 2 and 3.

Group 1 sings the first phrase.

Rhythm sticks play on the second phrase (group 2).

Inner hearing on the third phrase (whole class).

Jingle bells on the fourth phrase (group 3).

Continue like this for the rest of the song.

Let students choose which instruments they think are appropriate to accompany the song.

Have students decide whether instrumental accompaniment should be loud or soft.

CREATING -

Make a beat chart for this song. Make a rhythmic pattern chart for this song. Make a phrase chart for this song. Create an introduction using instruments or voices for the song. Would you be able to divide this song into four phrases? Create a movement activity for each phrase that would feel good with the singing of the song.

LISTENING -

Use this song as a mystery song by clapping the rhythmic pattern. The student who correctly identifies the song can choose how the students will perform the song. They can sing, use instruments, add movement. Try phrasing the song in different ways. Which seems to be the best way? Why? Students can discuss and compare what they hear.

CURRICULUM INTEGRATION –

Share the wonderful book, *Yankee Doodle* by Steven Kellogg (ISBN 0-689-80726-0). Sing along as Yankee Doodle makes his famous ride through the battlefields of the Revolutionary War. Go behind the lines in the American Camp, spy on British soldiers, and cheer for Captain Washington as he leads his brave troops in battle against the Redcoats.

Many of our nation's traditional songs have fascinating facts and stories behind them. This song was sung by the British at the beginning of the American Revolution to poke fun at the colonists. In 1777, the American troops reclaimed it as their own. The song was given the lyrics we sing today by Edward Bangs who served as a minuteman at the Battle of Lexington.