

Seven Ate Nine!

written by Rick Charette

© 2016 Rick Charette (ASCAP)

LYRICS & ACTIVITY GUIDE

Riding On a Zip Line
The Humuhumunukunukuapua'a Song
Seven Ate Nine
I Want To Get My Backpack Back
Ants In My Pants
Sugar Sharks
Bacon On The Bus
Cranky Franky
The Deer That Thinks She's A Cow
Hide And Seek
Call The Pizzeria
We Can make A Difference
My Mom
The Mouse And The Museum
A New Baby

Riding On A Zip Line

Chorus:

It's going to be my first time riding on a zip line.
I'm a little bit scared. Don't know if I dare to
Look at the ground far below.
It's going to be my first time riding on a zip line.
I take a deep breath. Ready or not, here I go. 2x

1. I jump into the air.
I can touch the sky.
I feel like I'm a bird.
I've got wings to fly.
My heart skips a beat.
I think you ought to know.
This gets better and better
The longer I go. **Chorus:**

2. High above the trees.
Down the line I glide.
Swiftly like an arrow,
To the other side.
The best day of my life.
I wish it wouldn't end.
If I have to go,
I'm coming back again.

Bridge: Oh oh! I'm ready to go.
I can feel it. Oh oh! All set. Here I go!

Chorus:

ACTIVITIES for “Riding On A Zip Line”:

A zip line is not a new invention. It actually was used as a means of transportation in some mountainous countries for years. Today they can be found in a number of places – from a child’s playground to an adventure park. Riders usually attach themselves to a pulley that glides on a cable down an incline sometimes quite high off of the ground. It’s definitely thrilling though it can be a bit scary the first time around.

I haven't been on a zip line in quite a while. However, I still remember the thrill of riding on one. I was high above the ground and flying through the air.

As you sing through the chorus each time, try adding some of these movements.

“first” Make the number one with the index finger and palm facing forward and then give the hand a quick twist inward.

“time” Point to your wrist where you would wear a watch.

“zip line” Bring hands together over your head as if you were holding onto a zip line.

“deep breath” Place both palms on the chest and move them in and out like breathing.

“Here I go.” With the index fingers pointed up, swing them forward in front of your body.

The Humuhumunukunukuapua'a Song

Hawaiian Fish Song

Chorus: Humuhumunukunukuapua'a
I'm a little fishie in the sea.
Humuhumunukunukuapua'a
Nobody has a name like me.

1. Come on out. We'll swim around the islands.
I'll take you 'round the reefs and the lagoons.
Come on out and we will have a good time.
We'll swim home in the bright light of the moon. **Chorus:**

2. Take a look at all my crazy colors.
Black and yellow, blue and white.
When I eat I take lot of big gulps.
I'm a little fish with an appetite. **Chorus:**

3. You might think my name sounds funny.
You might say: "It's way too long".
You might think it's hard to remember.
But it's easy when you sing it in a song. **Chorus:**

Bridge: Bigger fish, they all try to eat me.
I know how to shake them off my tail.
I grunt like a pig when I'm in danger.
Hide me in the rocks if you see a whale. **Chorus:**

ACTIVITIES for “The Humuhumunukunukuapua’a Song”:

The first time I heard about this fish, I knew I had to write a song about it. Plus, the long word is so much fun to say and sing.

The humuhumunukunukuapua’a is a trigger fish that’s a native to the outer reefs of Hawaii. This little fish with the long name became Hawaii’s state fish in 2006 thanks to a 6-year-old boy named Joel Itomura. The fish’s name is derived from **humuhumu**, *small trigger fish* + **nukunuku**, *small snout, snout* + **ā**, *like* + **pua’ a**, *pig*. The humuhumunukunukuapua’a has pale blue fins with a dark stripe that crosses its silver sides and belly. Its Hawaiian name is sometimes claimed to be one of the longest Hawaiian names in the English language.

The longest Hawaiian fish name is lauwiiliinukunuku’oi’oi, a tropical butterfly fish.

Seven Ate Nine

I find out. I'm surprised.

I cannot believe my eyes.

Six is afraid of seven.

Seven ate nine.

Number six can't be found.

Somebody says it's leaving town.

Six is afraid of seven.

Seven ate nine.

Chorus: Seven ate nine. Seven ate nine.
Three, four, five tell six: "It'll be fine".
Seven ate nine. Seven ate nine.
Six is afraid of seven. Seven ate nine.

Seven says to number nine:

"What do you say we go out to dine!"

Six is afraid of seven.

Seven ate nine.

Where is six? Out of sight.

Seven's got a great big appetite.

Six is afraid of seven.

Seven ate nine. **Chorus:**

Four, five, six run away. Seven says:

"Come back! It'll be okay."

Six is afraid of seven.

Seven ate nine

Seven says "I'll be nice.

Let's stick together. That's my advice."

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine.. Let's stay

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine

Always one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine

ACTIVITIES for “Seven Ate Nine”:

This riddle/joke has been around for a long time especially among children. I’m sure you have heard it before. “Why is six afraid of seven? Because seven ate nine (7 8 9)”. I’ve always liked it. I decided to personify the numbers and came up with this little song.

Song groups

Split up into two groups. Sing verse in unison. Group one sings “Six is afraid of seven.” and group two sings: “Seven ate nine.”

On the chorus: group one sings “Seven ate nine.” And group two echos “Seven ate nine.”

Riddles and jokes

Have children take turns with telling jokes and riddles to the class.

“Why did the banana have to go to the doctor? It wasn’t peeling well.”

“What sound do porcupines make when they kiss? OUCH!”

“Where do snowmen put their money? In a snowbank!”

I Want To Get My Backpack Back

1. I can't find my backpack.
It's a mystery.
I wonder where I left it.
It's really bugging me
I think I might have left it in my room
Hanging on the back of my chair.
I've searched high. I've searched low.
But I can't find it anywhere,

Chorus: I want to get my backpack back.
I wonder if I'll find it looking at a map.
I wish I was a wizard. 1, 2 Zap!
I want to get my backpack back.

2. I can't find my backpack.
I'm looking for a clue.
I don't know where I left it.
I bet it's here at school.
But it's not in my classroom or the lost and found.
I don't see it here in the gym.
It's not in the lunchroom. It's not on the bus.
It's not beside my violin. **Chorus:**

Bridge: Get it back. Get it back. Get my backpack back!
Get it back. Get it back. Get my backpack back!

3. I still can't find my backpack.
Where else could it be?
It's got no legs to walk away.
It's obvious to me.
I keep asking everybody that I know.
I'm starting now to run out of hope.
My friend, Jack, says: "Your backpack's on our back."
"Great! Now I can't find my coat."

Last Chorus: I finally got my backpack back.
I wondered if I'd find it looking at a map.
I still might be a wizard. 1, 2, Zap!
I finally got my backpack back.

ACTIVITIES for “I Want To Get My Backpack Back”:

It seems that these days everyone has a backback or two. Of course, they come in handy when it comes to hiking and camping. Also, many people like to use them to carry their things back and forth to school.

My youngest son, Jacob happened to be my inspiration for this song. We were driving in Portland one day and in our conversation he started talking about his backpack and how he had left it at his friend Jordan’s house. He said that he really had to get over there and get his backpack back. Of course, hearing the phrase “backback back” got me excited and motivated. The song went through several evolutions before arriving at its final form.

Here is something fun to do while singing the song: On the word *back*, put both of your hands over your shoulders and touch your back. On the word *pack*, put your hands in front on your chest as if you are holding the straps of the pack. And on the final *back*, move them to the back position again.

In the chorus, pretend to be opening up a paper map. Then be a wizard and go “1 2 ZAP!” using your fingers to count to two and then pointing your index finger forward on the word “Zap!”...just like you were pointing a sword.

Ants In My Pants

Chorus:

I wiggle a lot 'cause I've got ants in my pants,
Ants in my pants, ants in my pants.

I wiggle a lot 'cause I've got ants in my pants,
I just can't make it stop.

1. Maybe I should put some food on the ground.

And hope they march right out of town.

I think those ants are out of control.

I hope they never come back. **Chorus:**

2. Maybe I should give my pants away;

Then take a little swim out in the bay.

Even if it's still the month of May

I really just hope they stop.

Last Chorus:

I wiggle a lot 'cause I've got ants in my pants,
Ants in my pants, ants in my pants.

I wiggle a lot 'cause I've got ants in my pants,
I just can't make it stop.

Some things got to make it stop.

I yi yi! Somebody help me!

What's going to make it stop.

ACTIVITIES for “Ants In My Pants”:

So many times I’ve heard grown-ups say to kids who seem to be acting off the wall: “Do you have ants in your pants?” The children approached this song accepting the fact that indeed they did have ants in their pants but how were they going to make them go away!

This is a good song to get some of the wiggles out!

Ant Creatures

Here is a fun craft activity for kids. You will need some colored craft foam, pipe cleaners, wiggle eyes and a stapler and sizzors. Cut the foam into various rectangle sizes and staple them into tube shapes. Using the pipe cleaners, punch holes in one side through to the other. Twist the pipe cleaners into leg shapes. Make holes in the front for antennae. Finish by gluing on the wiggle eyes.

Written by Ms. Surian and Ms. Salgado’s Second Graders at the Mary G. Clarkson School in Bay Shore, NY

SUGAR SHARKS

Chorus:

Sugar sharks here they come.
Swimming in a line moving one by one.
With big sharp teeth, you don't have to run.
Those sugar sharks are having fun.

1. They're looking for candy.
They're looking for treats.
Everything that's sweet.
Sugar sharks like to eat. **Chorus:**

2. Jumping up for jelly beans
Tasting tootsie pops
Crunching on chocolate
They never want to stop. **Chorus:**

3. They get a big toothbrush.
They don't need any help.
They brush, brush, brush.
Then they floss with kelp. **Chorus:**

Bridge: One Sugar shark out in the bay.
Swims a little closer. It's coming my way.
I begin to quiver then I hear it say:
"Have you got a treat to make my day?"

Chorus:

ACTIVITIES for “Sugar Sharks”:

Of course, there is no such thing as a sugar shark. But can you imagine if there were? What do you think it would like to eat? Do you think it would like to eat candy and things that are sweet?

You might want to add some movements.

“Sharks” Place both hands, palms down, in front of you. Keep one hand flat and facing down but open up your fingers. Now slide the other hand like a shark fin between your fingers.

“line” With both index fingers together, move them apart indicating a straight line.

“one by one” Put one finger up in the air; then the other

“big sharp teeth” This is fun. Take both hands/arms and make a jaw pretending that your fingers are the teeth.

Starting out apart, have the teeth come together on the word “teeth”.

“having fun” Wave both hands in the air like the sharks are having fun.

This song was inspired by Marian Conway’s afternoon kindergarten class at Lakota Early Childhood Center in West Chester, Ohio back in 2001.

Bacon On The Bus

Chorus: Bacon on the bus,
Bacon on the bus,
What's all the fuss with the bacon on the bus?
Bacon on the bus,
Bacon on the bus,
What's all the fuss with the bacon on the bus?

1. There was a little girl. Found bacon on the floor.

She wondered what she should do.

Give it to a friend. Find a hungry hen.

Or put it in her shoe. **Chorus:**

2. Yummy, yummy, yummy! Should she put it in her tummy?

She wondered what she should do.

Feed it to a frog. Toss it to a dog.

What if she gave it to you? **Chorus:**

ACTIVITIES for “Bacon On The Bus”:

Bacon On The Bus? How did that come to be? Roy and I were doing an artist-in-residence program in the West Chester, Ohio early childhood schools several years ago. We were writing songs with all the classes. Each class chose a topic before they came to write their song. Ms. Kuhn’s class voted on a few different topics but chose to write about bacon on the school bus after a little girl from her class came into the room holding a piece of bacon that she had found on the floor of the bus. All of the kids thought it was a riot and they immediately decided that would be a funny topic to write a song about. It turned into an interesting and catchy little tune.

Sign and act out the chorus: On the word “bacon”, use your thumbs and index fingers and make a rectangular slice of bacon directly in front of you. The word “bus” is frequently finger spelled. However using both hands, pretend to be driving a big bus or truck. “What’s all the fuss?” shrug shoulders.

Written by Sydney Kuhn’s class from the Wyandot Early Childhood School, Liberty Township, Ohio in 2010.

Cranky Franky

Chorus: Let me tell you all about cranky Franky.
Franky's always cranky at the start of the day.
Give him some time. He'll do just fine.
He'll be smiling for the rest of the day.

1. It takes a little while for him to wake up,
I'm definitely sure you'll agree.
If you try to ask him a question,
He's going to say: "Stop bothering me." **Chorus:**

2. He doesn't want to play right when he gets up.
He doesn't want to talk on the phone.
And if you try to get his attention,
He'll probably say: "Leave me alone!" **Chorus:**

3. Franky doesn't mean to be grumpy.
Franky doesn't want to be mean.
He needs some extra time in the morning.
He'll come around. Just wait and see.

Chorus:

Last Chorus: Do you ever wake up like cranky Franky?
Are you ever cranky at the start of the day.
But give you some time. You'll do just fine.
You'll be smiling for the rest of the day.
Nothing to it.
Smiling for the rest of the day.
You can do it.
Smiling for the rest of the day.

ACTIVITIES for “Cranky Franky”:

Elaina, a parent from the New Lane Elementary Parent-Teacher Committee in Selden, NY, spoke to me after one of my concerts at her child’s school. She said they were all big fans. She was wondering if I would ever want to try to make up a song about her son, Franky. She said he was always cranky first thing in the morning but just like that he was usually happy for the rest of the day. So, after a number of years, I pulled this song together. Do you ever find yourself cranky first thing in the morning and that things improve for you throughout the rest of the day?

Art. Draw two self-portraits side by side on the same piece of paper. Draw one picture with a cranky expression on your face. Draw the other with a happy expression.

That Little Deer Thinks She's A Cow

Chorus: Here, here, here, there's a little deer.
She seems to think she's a cow
All she wants to do is moo, moo, moo
But she doesn't know how.
Whenever she tries to open her mouth,
She wants to say "moo" but
Nothing comes out.
Might there be a way she can work it out.
That little deer thinks she's a cow.

1. What a surprise to look out and see a little
Deer in a field of cows.
She was bouncing up and down, running all around.
Wondering if fun was allowed.
Those cows all stared at the little deer.
She didn't seem shy or afraid.
She wasted no time. Had one thing on her mind.
To get those cows to play. **Chorus:**

2. She followed the cows wherever they'd go.
She'd copy things they would do.
They'd lie on the ground, chew on the grass.
That little deer, she'd do it too.
So the cows all said to the deer one day:
Why don't you live with us here on the farm.
You could certainly be one of the family.
So she joined them all in the barn. **Chorus:**

3. After a while that little deer thought
Maybe she wasn't a cow.
Over by the woods some other deer stood.
They said it's time to come home now. **Chorus:**

Final Chorus: Here, here, here, there's a little deer. She seems to think she's a cow
All she wants to do is moo, moo, moo. But she doesn't know how.
Whenever she tries to open her mouth,
She wants to say "moo" but nothing comes out.
Might there be a way she could work it out.
Now she knows she's not a cow.
And she believes it.
She knows she's not a cow.

ACTIVITIES for “The Deer That Thinks She’s A Cow”:

A baby deer adopted by a herd of cows inspired a group of children I was working with at the Lakota Early Childhood Center (LECC) in West Chester, Ohio. They came up with a cool song about a deer that thinks she’s a cow. I felt it was a heart-warming story and decided to adapt the song. This little deer just showed up out of nowhere on a farm in this field full of cows across the street from the school. The cows befriended this little deer. After a short period of time, she started going into the barn at night with the cows. One problem however became apparent; the little deer wanted to moo but she didn’t know how. The little deer actually stayed at the farm for nearly a year. One morning, folks looked out into the field and the deer was gone; many say that she finally realized she wasn’t a cow and decided to go back home.

Sign and add motions for the chorus. Make the sign for “deer” by making antlers on top of your head using both hands. Switch to two horns for the word “cow”. Make three signs/posters and have three children or leaders hold them up one at a time on the “moo moo moo” part. “to open her mouth” Stretch out both arms, one on top of the other and open them wide on the word “mouth. Sign the word “work” by making two fists and tapping one wrist on top of the other.

Hide & Seek

Chorus: Come on out and play. Let's play hide and seek.
 Come on out and play. Remember you can't peek.
 First you've got to count to ten.
 Come look for me.
 Come on let's play hide and seek.
 Come and find me.

1. You look in the yard
 High up in a tree,
 Over by the rock.
 You can't find me.
 You look in the closet,
 You turn on the light,
 Over in the corner,
 I'm nowhere in sight. **Chorus:**

2. You look by the rug.
 Underneath the chair,
 Check behind the couch.
 You can't find me.
 You look in the basement,
 Ooh, you're getting hot.
 I'm frozen like a statue.
 You walked right by my spot. **Chorus:**

ACTIVITIES for “Hide And Seek”:

As a child, hide-and-seek was one of the favorite games in our neighborhood. We played after supper until our parents began calling us to come inside. . Hide-and-seek is a children's game in which those who are playing find places to hide. The person who is “it” has to count to a set number and find all those who are hiding. The last person found is the new “it”. Another version of this game is called Sardines. It starts out with one person hiding and the others must find them, hiding with them when they do so. The last person to find the group is the loser and becomes the person who becomes the new “it”. If someone can't be found, the leader would often shout out. “Ollie, ollie in free” signaling to those hiding to come out. And from here, another game of hide and seek would be played. Do you want to play a game of hide-and-seek?

Game. Play a game of hide and seek. Determine the boundaries (i.e. inside, outside etc.) Have a lot of fun!

Call The Pizzeria

Call the pizzeria.
Oh,, what a shame.
It's almost dinnertime.
And the pizza never came.

Could it be the wind?
Could it be the rain?
I am still here waiting.
The pizza never came.

Call the pizzeria.
Oh,, what a shame.
It's almost dinnertime.
And the pizza never came.

I dream of pepperoni.
I dream of chewy cheese.
My tummy is grumbling.
Won't you please.

Call the pizzeria.
Oh,, what a shame.
It's almost dinnertime.
And the pizza never came.

Seems like I've been waiting
A million, trillion years.
Waiting for the pizza man
To get here.

Call the pizzeria.
Oh,, what a shame.
It's almost dinnertime.
And the pizza never came.

DING DONG!

Activities for “Call The Pizzeria”:

After ordering a pizza by phone, you always think it’s going to arrive in a few minutes. And the longer that it takes, the more the anticipation grows. This song always makes me crave pizza!

Make a pizza! Get a pre-formed pizza shell for each child. Set out some different toppings. Be sure to include plenty of cheese. Cheese pizzas always seem to be one of the favorites of children. Have a pizza party when they come out of the oven.

We Can Make A Difference

Chorus: You can, I can, we can make a difference.

Let's get together and get it done.

You can, I can, we can make a difference.

Many hands are better than one.

1. We walk along the river. We run out to the sea.

We look up at the mountains rising proud and tall.

We breathe the cool fresh air. Change is everywhere.

The future depends on us all. **Chorus:**

2. Let's look out for our neighbors. Be a volunteer.

Those little things that matter will come back to you.

Let's walk that extra mile. Make somebody smile.

That's what our kindness will do. **Chorus:**

Bridge: We're planting seeds of peace everywhere we go

We're following this dream our whole life long.

The joy we feel inside is spreading far and wide.

We're growing up healthy and strong. **Chorus:**

ACTIVITIES for “We Can Make A Difference”:

Each one of us truly can make a positive difference, not only in our own personal lives but in the lives of others and the world around us. And certainly when we make the lives of others better, our own lives are enriched as well. This song speaks to that desire and longing for a better life for all.

Here are some signs and motions to add while you are singing:

“You can” Point to someone in the room.

“I can” Point to yourself.

“We can” Point to everyone in the room.

“Together” Bring both fists together. Then rotate them.

“done” Start the sign with palms facing in. Then turn the hands so they are facing out.

“Many hands” Everyone wave hands in the air.

“One” Everybody put your index finger in the air.

Celebrate “Make A Difference Day” on the last Saturday in October. On this special day, share, give, conserve and do things that will make a positive difference in your community. Klds can and do make a difference. Don’t forget. You can make the world a happier place simply by smiling.

My Mom

1. My mom likes to water flowers.

My mom runs around the block.

She often wears a ponytail. Plays a violin.

My mom likes to shop.

2. My mom likes to ride a bicycle.

My mom likes to paint her toes.

She gets out the sun block when were at the beach

And rubs it on my nose.

We like to cook together. I use that wooden spoon.

When I whip up the batter, she gives me lots of room.

Sometimes when I look at her and she looks back at me.

She says my eyes sparkle like sunshine on the sea.

3. My mom always reads me stories. My mom likes to sing me songs.

She sometimes tries to tickle me outside on the lawn

My mom's very strong.

When she comes home from working, we all pile in the car.

She takes me to my soccer game. I kick that ball real far.

My mom gets so excited when we go outside at night

We run and chase our shadows when the moon is bright

4. My mom tucks me into bed and then

My mom kisses me good night.

She whispers softly in my ear, "I love you." That's what I hear.

She tells me things will be all right.

ACTIVITIES for “My Mom”:

There are no “ands, ifs or buts” about it; moms are very special. Moms can be one of the most important people in a person’s life. My mom had such a remarkable impact on my life. Her love was unconditional. She loved me even when she didn’t agree with or understand some of the choices I made. My mom was my biggest fan; after every concert she never failed to tell me that it was definitely my best. I miss her dearly but there are times when I still feel her presence in my heart. My wife, Maureen, is also a mom and a special one too. Over the years I have seen how she was and still is, an immense help in my and our children's lives, influencing many of the choices we/they make or have made.

My love and my warm wishes go out to all the moms. What special things can you say about your mom?

Think of things that you can do for your mom that would be special to her. It could be as simple as giving her a picture that you drew or painted or some flowers that you picked for her.

The Mouse and The Museum

Chorus: A little mouse, a little mouse
Lives at the museum.
He sleeps all day. Comes out at night.
He's a curious mouse.

He sees a painting of a cat hanging on the wall.
He gets scared and runs away. Goes racing down the hall. **Chorus:**

He sees a painting of some cheese. He's hungry as can be.
He tries on a costume and a mask. He looks in the mirror to see. **Chorus:**

He hears footsteps on the floor. Morning time has come.
Now it's time to go to bed. He had better run. **Chorus:**

ACTIVITIES for “The Mouse And The Museum”:

I love this little tune. The lyrics are so imaginative. Imagine visiting an art museum from a mouse’s perspective. The mouse actually lives there and gets to appreciate the art work at night while everyone else is away or asleep. But come the next day, the museum opens and the mouse disappears into his hole until it becomes evening once again.

Try doing these movements while singing the Chorus:

“mouse” Brush across the tip of your nose with your index finger a couple times.

“museum” Bring hands together over your head like you're making a house.

“sleeps all day” Pretend you're making a pillow bringing both hands to the side of your head and resting your head on them.

“night” Hold one arm in front of you parallel to the floor. Bring other hand/arm across and down like the sun going down.

By Mrs. Jones Class at the Capuano Early Childhood School
Somerville, MA

A New Baby

Chorus: A new baby is coming to my house.
A new baby is coming to my house.

1. I don't think I will like it because they whine and cry.
Sometimes they are loud. But I don't know why. **Chorus:**

2. Here he comes. Let me see. Hey, he's looking right at me.
He's cute and soft with a little hair, wrapped in a blanket laying there. Chorus:

3. He grabs my finger and touches my face. He can stay and play.
I've got an idea just for you. You might want to get yourself a baby too!

Last Chorus: A new baby is coming to my house.
A new baby is coming to my house.
A bundle of love we all adore.
A brand new brother coming through the door.

ACTIVITIES for “A New Baby”:

Many children have younger brothers and sisters. This song is written from the perspective of being an only child in the family until one day a new baby appears. Initially they are not too happy to have to be sharing all the attention with a new sibling. However, given a little time, affection shown by the new born slowly changes their mind.

I Give Thanks

This new collection of original songs is dedicated to my two lovely grand-daughters – Bronwyn Charette and Mays Overall.

Huge thanks go out to the many people who have inspired me and touched my life over my long career and to them I will be ever grateful. My beautiful mom. My loving wife Maureen an invaluable consultant who continues to spark my imagination, our children for their continued creativity and for keeping us “hip”. My best friend, Roy, who amazes me more than ever with his musical gifts. My incredible one and only Bubble Gum Band – Donna Stearns, John Stuart, Pat Keane and Roy Clark. Maria Clark for her support and input. Jeanie Clemmer for her many years of dedication. Michaela Clark, one of the most talented young singers I will ever know.

Many teachers, staff and children too numerous to mention but I'll name a few – Mary Alice Berry, Matt Glover and the Lakota Schools in West Chester, Ohio. Taryn Drinker, Pam & Nancy Holmes and The Somerville MA Early Childhood Program. Mary Barkley and the Olivet Schools and Battle Creek Early Childhood Program in MI. Bill and Linda Rich. Letty Garcia and the Mary G. Clarkson School. Charlotte Wilson and 5th Avenue School, Bay Shore, NY. Randy and Cindy Methven. Louisa Markewitz. Wendy Gross. Janice Iapaulo. Lois Davila. Pat Murphy. Diane Druckman and the Wing School in Islip, NY. Gail Galucci and the East Meadow NY Schools. Pam Whynot and the Primary School, Windham, ME. Bangor ME Schools. Chris Hanna and the Dr. Mennies School, Vineland, NJ. Wendy Crawford and Grenloch Terrace School. Trudy & Kevin Hanrahan and the Thomas Jefferson School, Sewell, NJ. Elaine McNulty and the Oppenheim-Ephratah & St. Johnsville School in Central, NY. Suzanne Ryan.

Additional Thanks

L.L.Bean, Nick Bloom, Dave Taddeo, Becky Burke & Paris, ME Parks & Recreation, Henry, Carrie & Casey Raymond, Curt Johnson & Maine Wildlife Park, Loren & Iris Fields, Evie Swan, Karen Dube, Papoose Pond, Lake Pemaquid Campground, Kevin Hancock & Casco Bay volunteers, Sue & Joe Abbiati, Maine SAD#64,

Over the years my inspiration has come from many sources. Beginning with my mom, my wife, Maureen and family and spreading out to the thousands of children and teachers I have worked with in my long career.

Inspired by the world and people around me, the songs in this new collection combine my original songs along with songs that were written with children and in some cases, further developed.