

Helpful Hints for Boogie in the Classroom and at Home:

1. Chinese Boogie:

Theme: Dance song, name of directions

Suggested props: Bandanas or Ribbons

Chinese words introduced: Shang (up), Xia (down), Zuo (left), You (right)

Instructions:

This song is a dancing song, so get out your bandanas or ribbons and be ready to boogie! Explain first that boogie is an American style of music that involves pointing their finger in the air (not in their nose! – it's not that kind of boogie!). Every time they hear the word boogie they will point. After you practice that, show them the Chinese part which has the Chinese words for up, down, left, and right (pronounced Shang, Shang (up, up) Xia, Xia (down, down); Zuo, Zuo(left, left) and You, You (right, right)). During Shang, Shang, you will all throw your arms up, up; during Xia, Xia, throw your arms down, etc. To get the best boogie (quick hints): Do a 180 turn before the left and right directions so your children can go the same way as you (instead of mirroring you, since your left will then be their right). Then start the song and improvise. The rest of the song needs no prior practice, just follow along with what action is being sung.

2. Ni Hao:

Theme: Hello song

Suggested Props: Babies or dollhouse family

Chinese words introduced: Ni Hao (hello), Nan Hai (boy), Nu Hai (girl), Ma Ma Men (Moms), Ba Ba Men (Dads), Chang Ge (sing), Tiao Wu(dance).

Chinese Phrases: Wo Wo Shou (shake hands), Wo Shi (I am), Da Jia Yi Qi Lai !! (Everybody come/let's go)

Instructions:

For parents: Clap and sing along, make comments like 'I'm a mama?!' And sing your name and your child's instead of Linda and Pei-Jen's. It's also great to take turns singing the English and the Chinese for the 'shake hands', 'sing', and 'dance' parts.

For teachers with Big group: You can use a dollhouse family and hold up a member and ask everyone if they think it's the Nu Hai, Nan Hai, etc. Skip the Moms & Dads if none are represented in the room. Have the boys only wave while you are all singing hello to them, then the girls wave when it's their turn.

For teachers with smaller group: Go around the circle, clap and sing hello to everyone 4 at a time. Example: Ni Hao Erin, Ni Hao Ryan, Ni Hao Angel, Ni Hao Chris, having them each stand up when it's their turn. Then have them follow one another shaking hands around the rest of the circle while singing the Chinese and English for the 'shake hands with everyone' part. They take their place back in the circle and sing hello to the next 4 children. Then sing, Wo Wo Shou (your name) – my name is (your name). Feel free to change actions, for example from clapping to stomping, with each new group, and also while you are singing out the rest of the hello song together.

3. Best Way to China:

Theme: Movement song, name of transportations

Suggested Props: Globe or a big round ball to represent earth

Chinese words introduced: Huo Che (train), Chuan (boat), Fei Ji (plane), Hai Dao Chuan (pirate ship), Kong Long (dinosaur)

Instructions:

To introduce this song, talk about how the earth is round like a ball and how China is on the opposite side of the "ball" than the U.S. Then ask if you all were to dig a deep enough hole right outside, do they think you will end up in China? Then ask of other ways to travel there and after a few tell them that you'd all better get started since China is so far away and start the song. You can stand up and all walk in a circle, clapping during the 'Let's go to China' sections, and then moving your arms like the wheels of a train during the train part, rowing with your arms during the boat part, etc. This action song also works very well doing all the actions with everyone sitting, in a circle or otherwise.

4. Fried Rice:

Theme: Stick Songs, name of ingredients for fried rice

Suggested Props: Chopsticks

Chinese words introduced: Chao Fan (fried rice), Yang Cong (onion), Hu Luo Bo (carrot), Xiang Jiao (banana), Ji Rou (chicken)

Instructions:

Pass everyone out 2 chopsticks while you explain that it's time to make fried rice! They must all sit down for safety reasons. Tell them they will need onions, carrots, chicken, and bananas?!! You can go over the Chinese words for these if you are still passing out sticks, but once you're done start the song right away. If you know Chinese, you can ask for suggestions for other ingredients each time a verse comes around. Warning: this song can make you quite hungry!!

5. Family:

Theme: Dance or play instrument along song, name of family members

Suggested Props: All kind of music instruments

Chinese words introduced: Ge Ge (older brother), Di Di (younger brother), Jie Jie (older sister), Mei Mei (younger sister)

Chinese phrases introduced:

Ge Ge, Ni Hao Shuai (older brother, you look very handsome)

Di Di, Ni Hao Ting Hua (younger brother, you are such a good boy/ you are a good listener)

Jie Jie, Ni Hao Piao Liang (older sister, you are so beautiful/pretty)

Mei Mei, Ni Hao Ke Ai (younger sister, you are so cute)

Wo Ai Wo De Jia (I love my family!)

Instructions:

Dance or play instruments along with this song. It is a great song to use when the children have been sitting awhile. When you introduce the song, you can ask if anyone is an older brother, then tell them that in China they would be called Ge Ge (tell them that's not their name, it just tells their position in the family). Do this before you give them drums or pots and lids or else they will not hear a word you are saying!! If their attention span allows, ask if anyone is an older sister, for instance. Usually, only one or 2 should be introduced each time you do the song. After the older children are quite familiar with the song, you can start performing this song as a musical theater number. Choose the different members of the family, including a mother and father. Everyone will sing it, and the mother and father will do the adult spoken parts, one do the English and the other Chinese. The older brother responds with Xie Xie (thank you), for example. Tell the children they can add different responses if they wish, which gives them an opportunity to learn more Chinese. Encourage the responses to be in Chinese, or repeated in Chinese. All of the children that are pretending to be the children of the family can be zoo animals at the end, then the girls do, "he's not sharing", boys do, "but it's mine", then the 'Dads' do the "Honey, can I get you some more tea?" part and 'Moms' pretend they are getting served and sigh! During the choruses, have everyone dance arm in arm and kick back and forth like 'Rockettes'.

6. Traffic Lights:

Theme: Shaker egg song, name of colors

Suggested props: Shaker Eggs, color paper, popsicle sticks

Chinese words introduced: Lu Se (green), Huang Se (yellow), Lan Se (blue), Hong Se (red)

Instructions:

Hopefully you have the 4 colors (green, yellow, blue, and red) in shaker eggs. Otherwise, you can make colored circles for the 3 traffic light colors and tape popsicle sticks to them, and just use an 8x11 piece of blue paper and tape 2 popsicle sticks to it on one of the longer sides.

- a. For the younger kids, you can pass each child 2 of the 4 colors in the song. For example, each child gets 1 red and 1 green. Have them either sitting down or standing in a circle. Hold up your green egg and start chanting the word for green just like in the song and say, “green light”. Start shaking both eggs quickly and walk quickly around the circle. Then hold up the red egg and chant the word for red just like in the song and say, “red light”. Start walking and shake both eggs until the words, ‘stop’, ‘around’, and ‘stopped’. Repeat once more for green and red lights then just hold up one of the colors, say it in Chinese and do the motion without singing the song. Repeat this, alternating the 2 colors, just saying the colors in Chinese and doing the motions without chanting or singing. Then tell them to go back to their original spots and ‘stop!’
- b. For the older kids: Choose 4 different kids to be the 4 different colors and have them each at a different corner, and everyone else will be cars in a circle. Play the song and have the child with the color being featured hold their egg or paper up, and everyone stop to chant the colors. Then the ‘cars’ do what the song says to do, going fast for green, slow for yellow, looking up and spinning in place for blue sky, then going again for red until they hear the words “stop, around, and stopped”. Next time through, just do the color chanting part and the actions that follow. Then tell them all they have a yellow light until they get back to their original spots and then red light = stop and sit.

7. Love to Show:

Theme: Shaker egg song, names of body parts

Suggested props: Shaker eggs

Chinese words introduced: Pi Fu (skin), Huang Si (yellow), Zong Si (brown), Bai Si (white), Hung Si (red), Yan Jing (eyes), Er Duo (ears), Bi Zi (nose), Tui (leg), Jiao (foot/feet), Du Zi (belly), Xin Taio (heartbeat), Tou Fa (hair)

Chinese phrase introduced: Fen Xian Ni De Ai (Share your love!)

Instructions:

Sit everyone in a circle and hand any 2 eggs out to the children and announce that this song is about diversity (that some people have different color hair and different color skin) and no one is better than any one else because of these differences. Then start shaking your eggs on your cheeks, hands and arms for the first verse except for the line, “There is no wrong or right, no better dark or light”. During this line shake your eggs in front of you with your pointer fingers up (in a tisk, tisk, manner!) During the choruses: Shake on whatever part of the body the song is talking about. For eyes, I hide my eyes behind the eggs until the ‘ching’

part of the spoken Chinese at which time I peekaboo everyone. At end of chorus, shake on forehead for 'good thoughts' and cross your arms (sign language for love) during 'and love to' and hold your eggs up high for 'show'. Repeat forehead, cross arms, and then shake up high for the Chinese (Fen Xian Ni De Ai) which means to share your love. Next verse same as the skin verse but shake on hair instead (like you're washing your hair). Don't forget the (tisk, tisk) finger pointing part for the line: It cannot be said that one is better than the rest. End the song by shaking the eggs up and down your whole body for bones, bones, without bones, and then after you say, "we'd be blobs!" collapse on the floor (over your criss-cross applesauce legs) trying to look like a blob!

8. Ba Ge Jiao Zi:

Theme: Stick song, number 1 to 8

Suggested props: Chopsticks

Chinese Words introduced: Jiao Zi (dumpling), Ge (a measure word), Yi (one), Liang and Er(two), San (three), Si(four), Wu(five), Liu(six), Qi(seven), Ba (eight), Ling(zero), Guo Zi (pot), Du Zi (belly)

Instructions:

Sit everyone in a circle and hand everyone 2 chopsticks to get ready to make 8 dumplings! When everyone is ready, say, "ready sticks" and hold your sticks one in each hand pointing straight forward on the floor in front of you. Then count to 3 in English and Chinese, 1 (Yi), 2 (Er), 3 (san) then say, "sticks up" hitting your sticks on the floor each time you say the English number, then drum while you are saying, "sticks....." And put them straight up over your head for the "up". The song starts with the chorus and you can all tap your sticks together up over your heads while singing this part. Then announce that it's time to make the dumplings, so come on and roll out the dough! Then everyone rolls their sticks like rolling pins over dough, then pretend to mix the filling, then use the sticks pretending to 'stuff the filling in the dough', then hit sticks together like you are chopping on the words 'pinch' and 'shut'. Pretend you are playing drums for 'time to put it in the pot.....what have we got?' Hold your sticks still during the Chinese counting and hit them twice on the floor and tap them together once in the air after each number of dumplings is spoken. Tap them overhead during, "Now we've gotJiao Zi in the pot." Keep tapping them this way if it goes into the chorus or start rolling again if you still need to make more. When you get all 8 made, you tell everyone that now you will all eat them. Count backwards in English and Chinese 8, Ba, 7, Qi, 6, Liu, 5, Wu, 4, Si, 3, San, 2, Er, 1, Yi, zero, Lingpretending you are eating with your chopsticks during the English numbers. On zero, hold out sticks and shrug shoulders, then tap them together for the last line of song, until last word Du Zi (belly)during which time you put down your sticks and play 'drums' with your hands on your bellies for the big finish!

9. Thunder Storm:

Theme: Rhythmic chant, name of weathers words

Suggested props: Long color ribbons or scarves

Chinese Words Introduced: Feng (wind), Yu (rain), Lei (thunder), Tai Yang (sun)
as well as the Chinese sound effects associated with them!

Instructions:

This chant works well after the Ni Hao and an action song, just before eggs or stick time. Tell everyone you think you see a thunder storm coming and to look into the sky with you.

Far, far away in Chengdu city

(Hold your hand over your eyes like a visor)

3 black clouds floated over me

(Hold 3 fingers over your head and sway to the rhythm)

The (wind) was blowing

(Sway arms back and forth in front of you mimicking the wind)

The (rain) was falling

(Put both arms up and use fingers to mimic rain falling)

The (thunder) was roaring

(Use arms and hands to mimic the lightning bolts)

And the (sun) was still hiding

(Cover eyes with your hands on the word 'hiding'. After 4 beats say 'boo' and peek at everyone, then continue chant for 2 clouds and 1 cloud).

Last time through:

Far, far away in Chengdu city

(Hold your hand over your eyes like a visor)

No black clouds floated over me

(Arms out, shrug shoulders, and sway to the rhythm)

No (wind) was blowing

(Arms out, shrug shoulders, and look to the right & left on the beat)

No (rain) was falling

(Arms out, shrug shoulders, and look above to the right & left on the beat)

No (thunder) was roaring

(Arms out, shrug shoulders, and cup hand at the right & left ears one at a time on the beat like you are listening)

And the (sun) was now shining

(Cover eyes with your hands on the word for sun, and then on the word 'now' begin to arc your arms up and away from each other down to the ground with fingers wiggling to mimic the sun coming out and shining.

10. Home by a Mountain:

Theme: Stick song, name of some symbolic Chinese Characters

Suggested props: Chopsticks

Chinese Words introduced: Jia (home), Shan (mountain), Shu (trees), Shui (water), Yu (fish).

Note: The goal of this song is to introduce some Chinese characters, and we chose these words since the Chinese characters for these words look like the actual object they stand for.

Instructions:

Sit everyone down with their pair of sticks and start building a home: chop with the sticks, use one as a hammer and the other stick as a nail, then on the word 'mountainside' make a mountain out of your sticks, and finish out the verse building again. Then pretend your sticks are trees that are growing on the mountain for the first part of verse 2, then use your sticks as 'legs' walking through the trees for the rest of it. Then make a mountain on the word 'mountainside', and build again during, 'build my home'. During the chorus, be a band and pretend to play different instruments with your sticks. Announce the instrument (or ask for suggestions). Fiddles, clarinets, flutes, drums, guitar, pipa (pronounced peepah) which is like a Chinese guitar, are all good choices. During verse 3, tell everyone to make a stream by laying their sticks down parallel to one another on the floor. They can use their fingers to mimic the water or put their hands together to make a 'fish' that's swimming down the stream. Keep this action during, 'by the water', make trees again during 'through the trees', then the mountain again during 'mountainside', and finish up with the building during 'build my home'. Last verse, put your sticks together to make a fishing pole, cast out your line, pretend to catch a fish, reel it in, etc. Keep these actions through 'the swimming fish', make your stream again for 'in the water', make the trees for 'through the trees', mountain for 'on a mountainside', and finish by building your home for 'build my home'. After last chorus, tell everyone to pretend it took 6 months to build their homes and end by counting to 6 in English and Chinese, hitting sticks on the floor during the English numbers.

11. Sit and Drink Tea:

Theme: Action song, explores some of the sights and culture of China.

Suggested props: Stuffed animals

Chinese Words Introduced: Bing Ma Yong (terra cotta soldiers), Renminbi (name of Chinese currency, Fei (fly)

Instructions:

For this song, put out all of the stuffed animals and ask everyone to choose one. Then tell them all to stand up and get ready to explore China with their stuffed animal friends. Start the song, and tell them the first thing to do is climb the Great Wall. After this line is over, 'march' to Xian, next line – pretend to fight the terra cotta army, then swim Tai Lake. During chorus, say, Ok first we climb, (you say the word climb while Linda is singing the word China), then march, (say march when Linda sings me), then fight, (say fight when Linda sings know), then swim, (when Linda

sings ‘there to see’), back to climb (when Linda sings China the 2nd time), then march (when Linda sings me), then everyone sit! (while Linda sings ‘sit and drink some tea’). Have everyone pretend to drink tea with each other and their stuffed friends. Then get up again for verse 2 and hop (for ‘hop to Beijing, see the palace hurray’), then put on crowns (for ‘pretend to be prince or princess for the day’), then skip (for ‘skip to Shanghai, spend some Jen-men bee’), and spend money (like your dealing cards) during rest of verse. For this chorus, call out actions again at the same moments as you did for the first chorus, except call out the new group of actions: hop, crowns, skip, money, hop, crowns, then fly....for the whole bridge of the song. Last chorus go back to the original actions: climb, march, fight, swim, climb, march, then sit and drink tea until the song ends.

12. Moon Festival Lullaby:

Theme: Lullaby

Suggested props: Stuffed animals

Chinese phrase introduced: Wan An, Zhu Ni You Ge Hao Mong(Good night, have a sweet dream)

Notes: The Moon Festival in China happens each fall and is a big part of their culture. We wanted to tell the Chinese legend of the ‘lady on the moon’, and present this song as a bedtime story/lullaby. Turn the light off in the room to create the night night time atmosphere.

Instructions:

Tell everyone to cradle a stuffed animal friend while you are singing this song. It is a great way to settle everyone and regroup.

13. Goodbye Song:

Theme: Good Bye

Chinese phrases introduced:

Hen Gao Xing Ren Shi Ni

(It was nice to meet you!)

Zai Jian, Xie Xie

(Goodbye and thank you)

Wo Men Wan De Hen Kai Xin

(We had a great time)

Wo Men Yi Jing Chang Wan Le

(We’ve done singing)

Instructions: Get everyone up and tell them to get their boogie fingers and dancing feet ready! (It’s great to have a boogie partner too, if they wish to choose one). Encourage all to sing along and repeat the Chinese words for goodbye and thank you

a few times at the end after the song is over. Wave while you are saying goodbye and do the sign language for thank you while saying it in Chinese.