

# Name That Tune\*

Lesson by Patty Enright, Stillwater, MN

## Key Concept

1. Music may be used to teach and reinforce water-related topics.



## Background

Countless pieces of music have been inspired by or written about water. Your library is a good source of the most well known.

## Materials

For the class:

- paper and pencils
- lots of creativity

## Teaching Hints

In “Name That Tune”, you have a chance to tap into your students’ creativity through song writing.

1. Brainstorm a list of simple tunes familiar to almost all students.

Examples:

- |                                      |                        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| “The Itsy, Bitsy Spider”             | “Bingo”                |
| “Row, Row, Row, Your Boat”           | “Brother John”         |
| “Mary Had a Little Lamb”             | “Hokey Pokey”          |
| “The Farmer in the Dell”             | “Pop Goes the Weasel”  |
| “If You’re Happy and You Know It...” | Popular Beatles' songs |

2. Have students select one of the melodies and write a song to the tune using water-related words/themes.

For example:

### Water Drop Song

(Tune: Itsy, Bitsy Spider)

A Little drop of water  
 Fell out of a cloud today.  
 Trickled down the leaf  
 to the stream and washed away.  
 The stream ran down the mountain  
 carving out the land.

Into the big river and onto the sand,  
Creating more water  
than there is land.  
Out came the sun  
and dried up all the rain.  
The itsy, bitsy water drop  
became a cloud again.

3. Create a class songbook or tape a cassette.
4. Challenge a group of students to create a cassette or CD cover for your class recording.