

Scouting Resources

Songbook – 04

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Barges	2
He's Got the Whole World in His Hands	2
Switch.....	2
On My Honour	3
The Unicorn Song.....	3
Streets of London	4
Two Little Fleas.....	4
Goodnight Song.....	4
Pass It On.....	5
Chestnut Tree.....	5
Deep And Wide	5
If You're Happy	5
If You're Daffy.....	5
Junior Birdmen.....	6
John Brown's Baby	6
Menu Song.....	6
My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean	6
My Hat It Has Three Corners	6
One Finger, One Thumb	7
This Old Man.....	7
Cannibal King, Medley	7
Cheese.....	7
Dummy Line.....	8
It's An Insect World	8
Lions and Tigers and Bears	8
Lydia Pinkham.....	9
My Bonnie-silly verses	9
National Embalming School.....	9
Ravioli	10
Soap and Towel.....	10
Scout Travelers	10
Show Me the Way to Go Home	10
Sipping Cider Through A Straw	10

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Barges

Out of my window looking in the night,
I can see the barges flickering light.
Silently flows the river to the sea,
And the barges too go silently.
Barges, I would like to go with you;
I would like to sail the ocean blue.
Barges, have you treasures in your hold?
Do you fight with pirates brave and bold?
Out of my window looking in the night,
I can see the barges flickering light.
Starboard shines green and port is glowing red,
You can see them flickering far ahead.
Barges, I would like to go with you;
I would like to sail the ocean blue.
Barges, have you treasures in your hold?
Do you fight with pirates brave and bold?

Barges

Out of my window looking in the night,
I can see the barges flickering light.
Silently flows the river to the sea,
As the barges do go silently.
Chorus
Barges, I would like to go with you,
I would like to sail the ocean blue.
Barges, have you treasure in your hold,
Do you fight with pirates brave and bold.
Out of my window looking in the night,
I can see the barges flickering light.
Starboard shines green and port is glowing red,
I can see the barges far ahead.
How my heart longs to sail away with you,
As you sail across the ocean blue.
But I must stay beside my ocean clear,
As I watch you sail away from here.
Away from my window on into the night,
I will watch til they are out of sight.
Taking their cargo far across the sea,
I wish that someday they'd take me.

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

He's got the whole world in His hands.
2. He's got the wind and the rain in His hands.
3. He's got the tiny little baby in His hands.
4. He's got you and me sister in His hands.

Switch

(Tune: Reuben and Rachel)
I don't care if I go crazy
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Switch.
Crazy go I, if care don't I
6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Switch.

On My Honour

Chorus

On my honour I will try.
There's a duty to be done and I say aye.
There's a reason here for a reason above.
My honour is to try and my duty is love.

People don't need to know my name.
If I do any harm, then I'm to blame.
When I help another, I help me,
If I've opened up my eyes to see.

Chorus

I've tucked away a song or two.
If you're feeling low, there's one for you.
When you need a friend, then I will come.
There are many more where I come from.

Chorus

Come with me where a fire burns bright.
We can even see better in a candle's light.
But we find more meaning in a campfire's glow
Than we'd ever learn in a year or so.

Chorus

We've made a promise to always keep.
And the day is done before we sleep.
We'll be Girl Scouts together and when we're gone
We'll still be trying and singing this song.

Chorus

The Unicorn Song

A long time ago when the earth was green
There was more kinds of animals than you'd ever
seen
They'd run around free while the earth was being
born
But the loveliest of them all was the unicorn
There was green alligators
And long necked geese
Some humpy back camels
And some chimpanzees
Some cats and rats and elephants
but sure as you're born
The loveliest of all was the unicorn
Now God seen some sinnin'
And it gave Him a pain
And He says, "Stand back!
I'm gone to make it rain."
He says, "Hey, Brother Noah,
I'll tell you what to do,
Build me a floating zoo.
And take some of them
Green alligators and long necked geese
Some humpy back camels and some
chimpanzees
Some cats and rats and elephants
But sure as you're born
Don't you forget my unicorns."
Old Noah was there to answer the call
He finished up making the ark
Just as the rain started falling
He marched in the animals two by two
And he called out as they went through,

"Hey, Lord, I've got your green alligators,
And long necked geese
Some humpy back camels and some
chimpanzees
Some Cats and rats and elephants
But, Lord, so forlorn,
I just can't see no unicorns."
Then Noah looked out through the driving rain
Them unicorns were hiding, playing silly games
Kicking and splashing while the rain was pouring
Oh them silly unicorns
There was green alligators and long necked
geese
Some humpy back camels and some
chimpanzees
And Noah cried, "Close the door cause the rain is
pouring
And we just can't wait for them old unicorns."
The ark started moving, adrift with the tides
Them unicorns looked up from the rocks and they
cried
And the waters came down and sort of floated
them away
And that's why you'll never see a unicorn to this
very day
You'll see green alligators and long necked
geese
Some humpy back camels and some
chimpanzees
Some cats and rats and elephants
But sure as you're born
You're never gonna see no unicorns.

Streets of London

Have you seen the old man in the closed down market,
kicking up the papers with his worn out shoes?
In his eyes you see no pride hand held loosely by his side
yesterday papers telling yesterday's news.

Refrain

So how can you tell me you're lonely
and say for you that the sun don't shine
let me take you by the hand and lead you through the streets of london
I'll show you something to make you change your mind.
Have you seen the old girl who walks the streets of London,
dirt in her hair and her clothes in rags?
She's no time for talkin' she just keeps on walkin',
carrying her home in two carrier bags.

Refrain

In the all night cafe at a quarter past eleven
same old man sitting there on his own,
looking at the world over the rim of his tea cup
and each tea lasts an hour and wanders home alone.

Refrain

Have you seen the old man outside the seaman's mission,
memory fading with the medal ribbons that he wears?
And in our winter city the rain cries a little pity
for one more forgotten hero and a world that doesn't care.

Final Refrain

Two Little Fleas

(Tune: Auld Lang Syne)

Two little fleas together sat
They cried when one flea said;
"I've had no place to lay my head,
Since my old dog is dead.
I've travelled far from place to place
And farther will I roam.
But the next old dog that shows his face
Will be my home sweet home."

Goodnight Song

Evening sunset paints the sky,
Smoke from campfire drifts on high;
Songs and stories we like best,
Just before we go to rest.
Goodnight to every . . . Scout, say goodnight,
To those away and these here in our sight.
The fun we've had we will not soon forget;
The things we've learned and the pals we've met.
And so, goodnight to every . . . Scout, say goodnight.
Above may each {girl's/boy's} star send forth its light.
While songs and stories shared now wing their flight,
Goodnight, sweet dreams, goodnight!

Pass It On

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up to its glowing,
That's how it is with Scouting,
Once you've experienced it;
You spread your joy to everyone,
You want to pass it on.
What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding,
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.
That's how it is with Scouting,
Once you've experienced it;
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring,
You want to pass it on.
I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I've found,
You can come join in, it matters not where you're bound,
I'll shout it from the mountain tops
I want the world to know,
The joy of friends has come to me,
I want to pass it on.

Chestnut Tree

Under the spreading chestnut tree, where I held you on my knee.
We'll be happy as can be; under the spreading chestnut tree.
The first time through, sing the words as written. The second time, omit the word "tree" and instead imitate tree branches with upward and outward hand motions. The next time, also omit "nut" and tap the top of the head. Then, omit "chest" but pat the chest. Then, omit "spreading" and instead spread hands apart, etc. [Replace "happy" with a scowl and growl.] At the finish, almost half the song will be gestures.

Deep And Wide

Deep and wide, deep and wide, there's a fountain flowing deep and wide. [Repeat.]
Sing the words as written the first time through. Then, instead of saying the word "deep", make a gesture (one hand above the other) to show depth. The next time, also show "wide" by spreading hands out to the side for width. Continue with "fountain" (make a fountain-like gesture), and "flowing" (make a rippling gesture with hands moving from one side to the other at chest level).

If You're Happy

If you're happy and you know it [clap your hands (twice).]
[Repeat.]
If you're happy and you know it then you really ought to show it.
If you're happy and you know it [clap your hands (twice).]
2. Stamp your feet. 3. Give the sign [Scout sign]. 4. Shout 'HOORAY.' 5. Do all four.

If You're Daffy

Same format as "If You're Happy" but substitute: clap your fingers; knock your knees.

I've Got That Scouting Spirit
I've got that Scouting spirit up in my head, up in my head, up in my head.
I've got that Scouting spirit up in my head, up in my head to stay.
2. I've got that Scouting spirit deep in my heart.
3. I've got that Scouting spirit down in my feet.
4. I've got that Scouting spirit all over me.

Junior Birdmen

[Tune: On Brave Old Army Team]

Up in the air, Junior Birdmen; up in the air, upside down,

Up in the air, Junior Birdmen; with your noses to the ground.

And when you hear the grand announcement: that your wings are made of tin.

Well, then you know, Junior Birdmen, it's time to send your box tops in.

For it takes: 5 box tops, 4 bottle bottoms, 3 coupons, 2 wrappers, and one thin dime!

Actions: Make a face mask each time you sing the words, "Junior Birdmen" by lacing your fingers. Then, with thumbs under the chin, twist your hands outwards so that you make goggles for the eyes. On "Upside down," perform a jet plane swoop outstretched arms. On "Ground," bring the swooping arms as near to the ground as possible.

John Brown's Baby

[Tune: Battle Hymn of the Republic]

John Brown's baby had a cold upon its chest. [Repeat twice more.]

So they rubbed it with camphorated oil.

The second time through, replace the word, "chest" by patting the chest. Next time, substitute a cough for the word, "cold." Then, substitute baby-rocking arm motions for the word, "baby."

Menu Song

Today is Monday, today is Monday.

Monday-Roast beef!

Is everybody happy? Well, I should say.

Today is Tuesday, today is Tuesday.

Tuesday-String beans!

Monday-Roast beef!

Is everybody happy? Well, I should say.

Continue in the same way, adding a new day each time and sing back down to Monday with each verse:

Wednesday-Sou-ooop!

Thursday-Meat loaf!

Friday-Fish day!

Saturday-Baked beans!

Sunday-Worship!

To add variety and interest, break up your audience into groups and assign a specific day to each group. The group assigned to a specific day stands while singing and sits while not. Everyone sings "Is everybody happy . . ."

My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean

My Bonnie lies over the ocean,

My Bonnie lies over the sea,

My Bonnie lies over the ocean,

Oh bring back my Bonnie to me.

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my Bonnie to me, to me; [Repeat.]

Action: As you sing each word beginning with the letter B, change from a standing to a sitting position and vice versa. All should be standing at the end of the song. When you have mastered these movements, sing it again, faster.

My Hat It Has Three Corners

My hat it has three corners,

Three corners has my hat,

And had it not three corners,

It would not be my hat.

The first time, sing all the words. The second time, touch the top of the head instead of saying the word, "hat." The third time, also hold up three fingers instead of saying the word, "three." The fourth time, keep all the previous actions and hold up an elbow instead of saying the word, "corners."

One Finger, One Thumb

One finger, one thumb, one hand, keep moving [repeat twice]

And we'll all be happy again!

One finger, one thumb, one hand, two hands keep moving [repeat 2 more times.]

And we'll all be happy again!

With each new verse, add the following in succession: 3. One arm; 4. Two arms; 5. One leg; 6. Two legs; 7.

Stand up-sit down; 8. [Stand up] Turn around [Sit down].

This Old Man

This old man, he plays one,

He plays knick-knack on my thumb.

With a knick-knack, paddy-wack, give a dog a bone.

This old man goes rolling home.

Two-on my shoe. [Tap shoe.]

Three-on my knee. [Tap on knee.]

Four-on the floor. [Touch the floor.]

Five-on my hive. [Move hands as if brushing bees away]

Six-on my sticks. [Tap knuckles of other hand.]

Seven-up to Devon. [Shake fist.]

Eight-on my pate. [Tap top of head.]

Nine-on my spine. [Touch backbone.]

Ten-now and then. [Raise hands shoulder high, open and close fists in rhythm.]

Cannibal King, Medley

Oh, a cannibal king with a big nose ring, fell in love with a dusky maid,

And every night by the pale moonlight, across the lake he came.

Oh, a hug and a kiss for his cannibal miss, in the shade of the old palm tree,

Whenever they met, they sang a duet, that sounded like this to me:

Bar-rumph [kiss, kiss], bar-rumph [kiss, kiss], bar-rumph ti di a di aye,

Bar-rumph [kiss, kiss], bar-rumph [kiss, kiss], bar-rumph ti di a di aye.

We'll build a bungalow, big enough for two,

Big enough for two, my honey, big enough for two, wa, wa, wa,

When we are married, happy we'll be,

Under the bamboo, under the bamboo tree,

Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom, boom, boom, boom, boom!

If you'll be M-I-N-E mine, I'll be T-H-I-N-E thine,

And I'll L-O-V-E love you all the T-I-M-E time;

You are the B-E-S-T best of all the R-E-S-T rest,

And I'll L-O-V-E love you all the T-I-M-E,

Wrap 'em up, stack 'em up, any old time.

Cheese

It's cheese, it's cheese, it's cheese that makes the mice go round.

It's cheese, it's cheese, it's cheese that makes the mice go round.

It's cheese, it's cheese, it's cheese that makes the mice go round.

It's cheese that makes the mice go round.

It's mice, it's mice, it's mice that make the cats go round . . .

It's cats, it's cats, it's cats that make the dogs go round. . . .

It's dogs, it's dogs, it's dogs that make the boys go round. . . .

It's boys, it's boys, it's boys that make the girls go round. . . .

It's girls, it's girls, it's girls that make the love go round. . . .

It's love, it's love, it's love that make the world go round. . .

And so you see: it's really cheese;

It's cheese, it's cheese that makes the world go round. . . .

Dummy Line

Chorus

On the dummy line, on the dummy line;
Rain or shine, I'll pay my fine;
Rain or shine, I'll pay my fine;
Ride, ride, riding on the dummy line.

I got on the train and didn't have the fare,
The conductor said, "Whatcha doin' there?"
He grabbed me by the collar and shoved me out
the door.
Said, "I don't want to see you on this line no
more!"
Little Willy was home by himself.
Found a chocolate cake on the kitchen shelf.
Willy said, "If I eat this cake,
Sis won't get a belly ache."
Little Willy saw a mill saw buzz,
Didn't know quite what it was,
Now his arm is full of nicks,
And, alas poor Willy, he's cut in six.
Little Willy found some dynamite,
He didn't understand it quite,
But curiosity never pays,
It rained Willy several days.
Little Willy coming home from school,
Spied a half a dollar at the foot of a mule.
Stooped down to pick it up, quiet as a mouse.
Funeral tomorrow at little Willy's house!
Little birdie in the sky,
Dropped some whitewash in my eye.

Says I to me; says me to I,
"I'm sure glad that cows can't fly!"
There was a boy by the name of Jack,
Pitched his tent on a railroad track.
Midnight express came around the bend.
What kind of flowers did you send?
There once was a doctor, his name was Peck,
He fell in a well and he broke his neck.
It served him right, for he should've known;
To tend to the sick and leave the well alone!
There once was a hunter, his name was O'Hare.
He was chased by a grizzly bear.
The people all thought he was out of his mind,
Running down the street with a bear behind!
There was an old witch by the name of Nan,
Who tried to pass as a good humor man.
Couldn't fool the kids, they all stayed home
They would not buy from an ice cream crone.
My grandpa had a car, it was a Ford machine.
His whiskers came in handy for straining
gasoline.
My grandma had a habit of chewing in her sleep.
She chewed on grandpa's whiskers and dreamed
of shredded wheat!

It's An Insect World

It's a world of centipedes, a world of moths,
It's a world of katydids, a world of wasps
There's so much that we share that it's time we're aware,
It's an insect world.

Chorus

It's an insect covered world, [repeat twice].
It's an insect world.
It's a world of beetles, a world of fleas,
It's a world of caterpillars, a world of bees,
In this world that we know there is so much to show,
It's an insect world.

Lions and Tigers and Bears

[Tune: When Johnny Comes Marching Home]

When lions are roaming on the plain, hurrah, hurrah. *[Repeat.]*
When lions are roaming on the plain, we fall on our knees and pray for rain.

Chorus

And we all go running up to the hills to get out of their
way,
Hey, hey, hey.
When tigers go stalking in the wood, . . .
All creatures do what they know they should.
When bears are growling loud and long, . . .
Everyone flees but the young and the strong.
When rhinos go marching to the lake, . . .
Trees do bend and the ground does shake.

Lydia Pinkham

Chorus

So Let us drink-a, drink-a, drink,
To Lydia Pinkham, Pinkham, Pink.

The savior of the human race.
She invented a vegetable compound
Twas efficacious in every case.

Here's a story, a little bit gory,
A little bit happy, a little bit sad.
Of Lydia Pinkham and her vegetable compound,
And how it drove her to the bad.

My brother Bob, he was quite a slob,
He used to drool all over town.
'Til they gave him vegetable compound,
And in a week he almost drowned.

Johnny Hammer, had a terrible stammer.
He could barely say a word.
So they gave him vegetable compound,
Now he's seen but never heard.

Oh, Uncle Paul, he was so small.
He was the shortest man in town.
'Til they rubbed him with vegetable compound,
Now he weighs but half a pound.

A lady named Gwen had no children.
She was barren we did fear.
'Til they gave her vegetable compound,
Now she delivers twice a year.

Ebenezer thought he was Julius Caesar,
So they put him in a home.
There they gave him vegetable compound,
Now he's emperor of Rome.

Poor Lydia died and went to heaven.
All the church bells they did ring.
But she took along her vegetable compound,
Hark, how the Herald Angels sing!

Lydia Pinkham (1819-1883) was an American proprietor who claimed that her Vegetable Compound, a blend of herbs and 18% alcohol, could cure any "female complaint" from nervous prostration to a prolapsed uterus. Although its therapeutic effects were never substantiated by medical proof, her product gained popularity among women, many of whom hesitated to consult male physicians about female problems." In the 1920s, federal regulations caused both the product's claims and its alcohol content to be reduced.

My Bonnie-silly verses

My Bonnie's complexion was makeup, her face, it was beauteous to see;
Until she got caught in a rainstorm, Oh, bring back my Bonnie to me.
My Bonnie leaned over the gas tank, the height of its contents to see;
I lighted a match to assist her, Oh, bring back my Bonnie to me.
My Bonnie has tuberculosis, my Bonnie has only one lung,
My Bonnie can cough up raw oysters, and roll them around on her tongue.
My mother's an apple pie maker, my father he fiddles for tin,
My sister scrubs floors for a living, Oh boy, how the money rolls in.
Rolls in, rolls in, Oh boy, how the money rolls in, rolls in, etc.
Last night as I lay on my pillow, last night as I lay on my bed,
I stuck my feet out the window, next morning my neighbors were dead.
Bring back, bring back, Oh, bring my neighbors to me, to me, etc.

National Embalming School

[Tune: (mostly) O, Tannenbaum]

We live for you, we die for you, National Embalming School.
We do our best to give you rest, National Embalming School.
And when you die, we'll dig a hole, and bury you so deep and cold.
We live for you, we die for you, National Embalming School.
Post mortem, post mortem, post mortem, autopsy we must have.

[Repeat]

Cut! Slash! Gash! Bleed! We must know the reason.
Glory how the body stinks! It must be out of season.
We live for you, we die for you, National Embalming School.

Ravioli

[Tune: *Alouette*]

Ravioli, I like ravioli; ravioli, it's so good for me.

Leader: Do I have it in my hair?

Yes you have it in your hair.

Leader: In my hair? OHHH...

Ravioli, I like ravioli; ravioli, it's so good for me.

Continue: Chin, tie, shirt, skirt(pants), shoes, floor. Repeat the items mentioned with each verse sung.

Soap and Towel

[Tune: *"Row, Row, Row Your Boat"*]

Soap, soap, soap and towel; towel and water please.

Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, wash your dirty knees.

Scout Travelers

[Tune: *Home on the Range*]

Oh, give us a train or a boat or a plane,

That will carry . . . Scouts away;

To Paris or Rome, let us wander and roam,

And discover new things each day.

Relax on a trail, float over the waves all day,

Or glide through the clouds, far over the crowds,

But be home before five each day.

On a broomstick we'll ride, in a rowboat we'll glide;

In a rocket we'll go to the moon,

And our trip will be fun but soon will be done,

Air pockets could end it too soon.

Up, up, and away; let us orbit the far distant sun,

Or deep on the floor of the sea let's explore,

And as . . . Scouts we'll always have fun.

Show Me the Way to Go Home

Show me the way to go home, I'm tired and I want to go to bed.

Oh, I had a little drink about an hour ago, and it went right to my head.

Wherever I may roam, on land or sea or foam.

You will always hear me singing this song: Show me the way to go home.

Fancy word version:

Indicate the way to my habitual abode, I'm fatigued and I want to retire.

Oh, I had a little liquid sixty minutes ago, and it went right to my cerebellum.

Wherever I may perambulate, on land or sea or atmospheric bubbles.

You will always hear me humming this melody: Indicate the way to my habitual abode.

Sipping Cider Through A Straw

The prettiest girl [Echo.], I ever saw, [Echo.]

Was sipping cider through a straw.

[Repeat previous two lines.]

I asked her if, [Echo.] she'd show me how, [Echo.]

To sip that cider through a straw.

[Repeat previous two lines.]

Then cheek to cheek, and jaw to jaw,

We sipped that cider through a straw.

Every now and then, the straw would slip,

I'd sip some cider from her lip.

The parson came to her backyard,

A sipping cider from a straw.

And now I have a mother-in-law,

And fourteen kids to call me Pa.

The moral of this little tale,

Is sip your cider from a pail!

Feminine variation: Substitute "The cutest boy" for "The prettiest girl," "him" for "her," "he" for "she," and "Ma" for "Pa."