

Our Autumn Song

Teacher's Notes

FunSongs language-learning action songs should be taught through suggestion, mime and movement. Important! Be sure you have familiarised yourself well with the action song and its teaching gestures before you present it to the class.

Focus Minds on the Song Concept

In L1 (your students' first language), tell your class they are going to learn a new action song about the season of autumn. Ask your class to say what they associate with autumn. Answers will depend on age and experience.

Presenting the Action Song

1. Play the guide version of the song. Accompany the guide voice and do the teaching actions as illustrated in the Teaching Actions sheets.
2. Teach the song line by line through the actions. During this phase, avoid the use of L1 as much as possible. **Do not** show the class the words of the song!
3. Build up your children's knowledge of the song gradually in simple steps.
4. When you are ready, ask the class to stand and perform the song.
5. Now try it with the kids' version.

WORKING ON THE SONG

Reading practice

Once your class has learned the song, photocopy and distribute the words sheet. Play through the song as everyone follows the written text. Next play the karaoke version through with everybody reading and singing. This activity will also help to teach spelling of the new words.

Using mime

When your class has learned the song and its actions, invite someone to come up to the front and do two or three of the actions in the song without singing. The rest of the class says the line or words associated with the actions. This can also be done in pairs.

Using the Worksheets

The Worksheets have been created to help you recycle and work on the language in the song in different contexts to help your students acquire the language for their own communicative needs. The activities are graded; the easiest activity is Worksheet 1, appropriate for the youngest learners. You may also set some of them for homework.

Worksheet 1 – The four seasons

A cut, stick and colour activity for the youngest learners. It highlights the cyclical nature of the four seasons and the changes in the appearance of plants and trees. Cross-curricular.