

The Monster March

Teacher's Notes

FunSongs action songs should be taught through suggestion, mime and movement - never from the printed page.

Learn "The Monster March" and its teaching actions before you present and teach it to your class.

As well as the Teaching Actions file, study the teaching video at :- [link to full teaching video](#)

Focus Minds on the Song Concepts

In L1 (your students' mother tongue) tell your class they are going to learn a special march, an action song in English about a band of frightening monsters from outer space. They move their bodies in a special way to scare children and animals. Tell them the song contains hands, fingers, thumbs, wrists, chins, cheeks, lips, fists, hips, elbows, knees and lots of strange movements. Put on the guide voice mp3 and accompany the words with some of the teaching actions.

Focus Minds on the Song Concepts

1. 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!
2. Build up your children's knowledge of the song gradually in simple steps.
3. When you are ready, ask the class to stand and perform the song.
4. Now try it with the kids' version.
5. Now try it with the music version.

Mime transfer activity

When your class has learned the song and its actions, invite them to come up to the front and do some of the actions in the song without singing. The rest of the class says (or sings) the line or words associated with the actions. You can also ask them to do this in pairs.

Reading practice

Photocopy and distribute a copy of the lyrics to each child. Now play the song as everyone follows the written text with a finger. Next, play the karaoke version with everybody reading and singing. This activity will help your pupils to improve their reading and spelling skills.

Graded Worksheets

The Worksheets are graded. Worksheet 1 is the easiest and therefore suitable for First Grade children. Check through the worksheets to decide which are appropriate for your class and level.

Many are suitable for homework. Completed and coloured worksheets can then be collected together in a folder or portfolio.

Worksheet 1 – Colour the numbers

Ask your children to colour and count the numbered shapes and body parts in various ways. For example ask them to colour all the shapes numbered "3" green, and the shapes numbered "6" red so they set up a colour code.

You can then ask them to count how many arms and feet the monster has. Colouring and counting variations can help you work on colours, quantities and body parts.

When everyone has identified and coloured the body parts, you can reinforce learning with questions such as:

Teacher: "Michel - what colour is the monster's body? "

Michel: "Blue!"

Teacher: "Danielle – how many feet does he have?"

Danielle: "Two!"

and so on ...

Worksheet 2 – Create your own monster!

A creative practical activity that also practises and improves eye and hand coordination. Once your children have cut out the shapes in the first sheet, they then stick and colour them on one or more of the larger "monster" shapes on the second sheet. Play the Monster March action song (maybe alternating the "voice" and "karaoke" versions) in the background so the children can sing along.

As you go round, encourage everyone to use as much English as possible while they work. You should also teach classroom words such as: "Glue, Scissors, Paper, Sticky tape", and so on.

Worksheet 3 – Dancing "The Monster March"

Use this to check comprehension of the actions in the song. Depending on level and competence, you could also ask students to produce their own drawings and label them.

Worksheet 4 – Battle of the Monsters

A "battleships" activity that also involves mathematical and spatial as well as linguistic intelligence. Children compete to destroy their opponents' monsters first by identifying their position on the grid.

- Divide your class into pairs.
- Everyone marks the position of their four monsters on the grid.
- Children then take turns in pairs to call out grid references such as A2, etc..
- Possible replies are: HIT, DESTROYED, MISSED which you should teach first.

Your class should also know the first six letters of the English alphabet and numbers 1 to 6.

- At the end they can colour their "Monster Battle" sheets according to your instructions before sticking them into their portfolios.

Worksheet 5 – True or false?

A comprehension and vocabulary-building task in which students must closely examine the pictures and match them to the descriptions.

Key: Kevin's monster had only two legs.

Lucy's jellyfish had only seven arms.

Worksheet 6 – Strange meetings

A comprehension and vocabulary-building task in which students must closely examine the pictures and match them to the descriptions.

Key: Kevin's monster had only two legs.

Lucy's jellyfish had only seven arms.

Worksheet 7 – Draw a monster alien from space

Students draw a monster based on a written description.

Make sure your class knows most of the vocabulary before setting this task. It can also be given for homework or completed in class in pairs to encourage communication. Follow up with comprehension questions on the story and the monster's body.

Worksheet 8 and 9 – Cloze tests

Use these cloze tests to focus and practise specific vocabulary elements in "The Monster March". Good for improving spelling and reading.

Worksheet 10 – Silent Monsters

These amusing riddles can be used to test and reinforce vocabulary.