

1. Pass the Beat

Teacher claps first, and the next child claps once, and then so on around the circle. *Try other styles:*

- Get faster / slower as you go around.
- Each child claps twice, still keeping the beat even. (3 times, 4 times)
- One child claps once, and the next child claps twice quickly creating a rhythm.
- Every second (or 3rd or 4th ...) child claps (once, or twice or ...)
- Close their eyes and see if they can take their turn at clapping at the right time.
- Claps get louder / softer as they go around the circle.
- Add other body percussion - clicks / knee-slaps.
- Use chop-sticks of other 'instrument' to pass the beat or rhythm.
- Get them to clap hands with the child on one side, then the child on the other, thus passing the clap around.
- Use words - pass a word around, or a word sequence (count, go through alphabet, days of the week, or just alternate with two words ...) There are endless possibilities ...

2. Row, Row, Row Your Boat – *sing as a round*

Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream.
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
Life is but a dream.

Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream.
If you see a crocodile,
Don't forget to scream!

3. Alive, Alert, Awake (*Tune: If you're happy and you know it*)

I'm alive, alert, awake, enthusiastic!
I'm alive, alert, awake, enthusiastic!
I'm alive, alert, awake,
I'm awake, alert, alive,
I'm alive, alert, awake, enthusiastic!

Alive: hands on your head
Alert: hands on shoulders
Awake: cross arms over chest
Enthu:- hands on thighs
-si:- clap
-astic: snap with both hands

I am dead to the world and very sleepy ...(X2)
I am dead to the world and the world is dead to me
I am dead to the world and very sleepy.

4. Elephant in the attic (*chant with actions*)

What is that noise (*cup hand to ear*)
 Up in the attic (*point over your head*)
 It is an elephant (*make a trunk with your arm*)
 Cycling round and round. (*cycling motion with legs and/or arms*)
 It is an elephant (*make a trunk with your arm*)
 All chic and elegant (*fashion model pose*)
 With one tail here (*make trunk with your arm*)
 And one behind. (*point to where your tail would be if you had one!*)

5. Hello! My name is Joe (*spoken*)

Hello, my name is Joe
 I have a wife and a dog and a family
 I work **all day** in the button factory
 One day, my boss came up to me and said,
 "Hey Joe, are you busy?"
 I said, "No ... no!"
 "Then do this *..."

Hello, my name is Joe
 One day, my boss came up to me and said,
 "Hey Joe, are you busy?"
 I said, "YES!!" **

6. I left my wife (*Marching chants*)

L R L R
 I had a good home and I left
L R L R
 I had a good home and I left
L R L R
 I left on my own and it served me right,
L R L R
 Left, right, left, right.

L R L R
 Left, left,
L R L R
 I left my wife in New Orleans
L R L R
 With thirty-five cents and a can of beans
L R L R L
 I thought it was right, right,
R L R - L - R
 Right for my country whoop-dee-doo!
L R L R
 Left, left... (*start again*)

7. No Bananas in the Sky (*Tune: There is a Tavern in the town*)

There are no bananas in the sky, in the sky
 There are no bananas in the sky, in the sky
 There's a sun
 And a moon
 And a coconut cream pie
 But there are no bananas in the sky, in the sky!

No: hand motion both hands together then apart (like "cut" for a movie)

Bananas: peel a banana

Sky: point upward on sky (each time)

Sun: gesture a round object in the sky

Moon: another round object on the other side

Coconut cream pie: gesture a fluffy object (like clouds)

There are (*action*) (*action*) in the (*action*) in the (*action*)
 There are (*action*) (*action*) in the (*action*) in the (*action*)
 Just a (*action*) and a (*action*) and a (*action*)
 But there are (*action*) (*action*) in the (*action*) in the (*action*).

8. Fruit Salad (*chants*)

Apples, peaches, pears and plums!
 Apples, peaches, pears and plums!

Banana-na-na-na-na-na!
 Banana-na-na-na-na-na!

Grapes, grapes, doo-ah doo-ah!
 Grapes, grapes, doo-ah doo-ah!

Papaya, papaya, p-p-papaya!
 Papaya, papaya, p-p-papaya!

Watermelon, watermelon, (spit out seed, spit out seed)
 Watermelon, watermelon, (spit out seed, spit out seed)

Raspberry, raspberry, (raspberry, raspberry, raspberry)
 Raspberry, raspberry, (raspberry, raspberry, raspberry)

9. Vocabulary Chant

1. Decide on your topic or theme (e.g. grammar terms, nouns with a theme such as animals, verbs of speaking, adverbs ... anything really)
2. Brainstorm words that fit your topic or theme. Write 10 or 15.
3. Next to each word, note how many syllables it has.
4. Now choose 3 words with 2, 2, 3, and 1 syllable respectively.
5. Now write your chant.

10 Jazz Chant*Teacher:* Write! Write!*Students:* Write! Write!*Teacher:* Who writes?*Students:* Who writes?*Teacher:* He writes.*Students:* He writes.*Teacher:* What does he write?*Students:* What does he write?*Teacher:* He writes emails to his friend.*Students:* He writes emails to his friend...*Teacher:* Write! Write!*Students:* Write! Write!*Teacher:* Who writes?*Students:* He writes.*Teacher:* What does he write?*Students:* He writes emails to his friend...

count:	1	2	3	4
	Write!	# #	Write!	#
	Write!	# #	Write!	#
	Who	writes?	#	#
	He	writes!	#	#
	What	does he	write?	
	#	# #	#	He writes
	emails	to his	friend.	
	# #	# #	#	
# #	2 quick claps		#	1 clap