



# Family Holiday Music-Making Kit

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**Alfred Music**  
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# Sing-Along: Deck the Hall

## DECK THE HALL

Brightly (♩ = 72) (♩ = 144)

G D/F# Em7 D/A A7 D

*mf*

D A7 Bm A7 D A7 D G6 D/A A7 D

1. Deck the hall with boughs of hol - ly.  
 2. See the blaz - ing Yule be - fore us. Fa la la la la la la la la.  
 3. Fast a - way the old year pass - es.

D A7 Bm A7 D A7 D G6 D/A A7 D

{ 'Tis the sea - son to be jol - ly.  
 Strike the harp and join the cho - rus.  
 Hail the new, ye lads and lass - es. } Fa la la la la la la la la.

The musical score is written for guitar and piano. It begins with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The tempo is marked 'Brightly' with a quarter note equal to 72 or 144 beats per minute. The piano part starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The guitar part provides accompaniment with chords: G, D/F#, Em7, D/A, A7, and D. The first system shows the initial instrumental introduction. The second system includes three verses of lyrics. The first verse is 'Deck the hall with boughs of hol - ly.' The second is 'See the blaz - ing Yule be - fore us.' The third is 'Fast a - way the old year pass - es.' This is followed by a chorus of 'Fa la la la la la la la la.' The third system continues with more lyrics: ''Tis the sea - son to be jol - ly.', 'Strike the harp and join the cho - rus.', and 'Hail the new, ye lads and lass - es.', followed by another chorus of 'Fa la la la la la la la la.' The guitar chords for the second and third systems are D, A7, Bm, A7, D, A7, D, G6, D/A, A7, and D.

Excerpt from *The Christmas Family Songbook* (00-44362)



A7 D A/C# Bm7 E7

Don we now our gay ap - par - el.  
 Fol - low me in mer - ry mea - sure,  
 Sing we joy - ous all to - geth - er, } Fa la la la la la

A E7 A7 D A7 Bm A7 D

la la la. } Troll the an - cient Yule - tide car - ol.  
 while I tell of the Yule - tide trea - sure.  
 heed - less of the wind and weath - er. }

G D/F# Em7 1.2. D/A A7 D 3. D/A A7 D

Fa la la la la la la la la. la la la. la la la.  
*rit.*

Excerpt from *The Christmas Family Songbook* (00-44362)




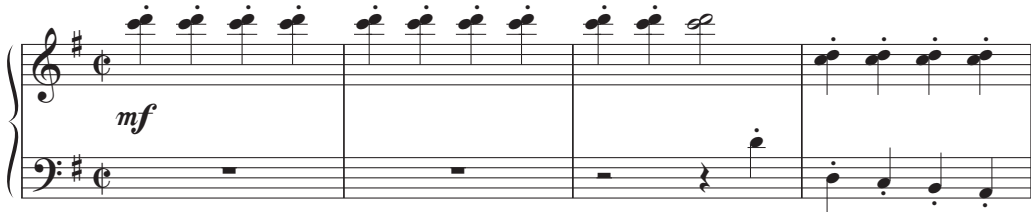
# Sing-Along: Jingle Bells

## JINGLE BELLS

Lively (♩ = 92)

Words and Music by  
JAMES PIERPONT

D7

*mf*

Verse:

G




C





1. Dash - ing through the snow in a one - horse o - pen sleigh;  
 (2.) day or two a - go I thought I'd take a ride, and  
 3. Now the ground is white. Go it while you're young.


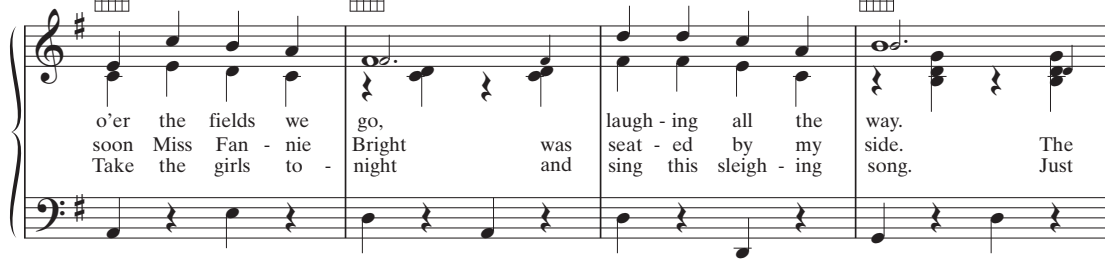
Am



D7


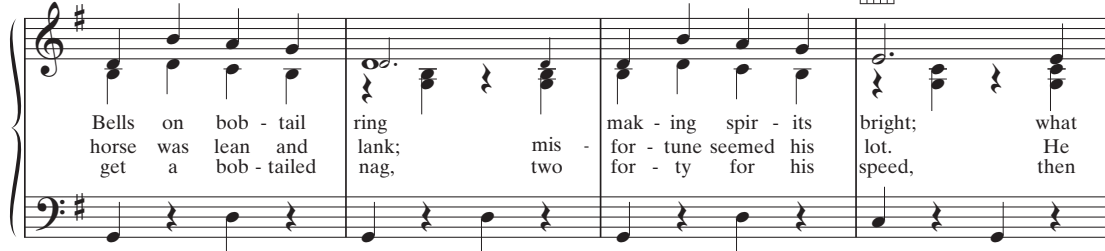


G

o'er the fields we go, laugh - ing all the way.  
 soon Miss Fan - nie Bright was seat - ed by my side. The  
 Take the girls to - night and sing this sleigh - ing song. Just

C

Bells on bob - tail ring mak - ing spir - its bright; what  
 horse was lean and lank; mis - for - tune seemed his lot. He  
 get a bob - tailed nag, two for - ty for his speed, then

Excerpt from *The Christmas Family Songbook* (00-44362)

Am G/D Am7 D7 G D7

fun it is to ride and sing a sleigh - ing song to - night. }  
 got in - to a drift - ed bank and whew, we got up - set! } Oh!  
 hitch him to an o - pen sleigh and crack, you'll take the lead! }

Chorus:

G

Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way.

C G A7 D7

Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one - horse o - pen sleigh!\_\_\_\_\_

G

Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way.

C G D7 1.2. G 3. G

Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse o - pen sleigh! 2. A sleigh!

Excerpt from *The Christmas Family Songbook* (00-44362)



# Legend of the Poinsettia

## MEXICAN FOLK TALE

Many years ago in Mexico, there lived a poor girl named Maria and her little brother Pablo. Maria and Pablo always looked forward to **Christmas** in their small village. A large manger scene was set up in front of the church, and there were parades and **celebrations** all week long. It was a tradition for all of the children in town to bring **gifts** for the baby in the manger. But Maria and Pablo were poor, and they had nothing to give.







On the night of **Christmas** Eve, Maria and Pablo set out for church. As they got closer, they could see candles and hear singing at the **celebration**. Tears filled Maria's eyes. She wanted so badly to bring a **gift**. Suddenly, she heard a voice. She looked up and saw only a **star** shining brightly in the sky. Who had spoken to her?

"Maria," came the voice again, "A **gift** is not special because it is expensive, but because it is given with **love**." The children looked at each other in astonishment. They quickly scrambled into the nearby field to pick a handful of tall green **stems**. Gathering the stems in their arms, they raced into the village, hoping they weren't too late.

Maria and Pablo arrived just as the last **gift** was being placed in front of the manger. Undeterred, they slowly walked forward through the crowd, which fell silent as the children passed. When Maria and Pablo reached the front of the church, they opened their arms and let the **stems** fall onto the ground. There was a gasp from the crowd. Maria and Pablo looked down in dread ... and saw that their **stems** had been transformed into brilliant red **stars**! The manger was covered with beautiful flowers. That is the night that the poinsettia was born, a flower that is now displayed all over the world during **Christmas** time.

You may not have all of these instruments at home, so look around for something you think might make a similar sound. Get creative!

### Instrument Key

 <b>Christmas: Cymbals</b> Crash together	 <b>Star/stars: Bells</b> Ring once
 <b>Celebration: Maracas</b> Shake steadily	 <b>Love: Triangle</b> Strike once and let ring
 <b>Gift/gifts: Glockenspiel</b> Glissando up and down	 <b>Stems: Sandpaper blocks</b> Rub together quickly

## Teaching Extensions

**Grade Level: 1-3**

**Language Arts:** Replace the accent words with their Spanish equivalent. If one of your students speaks Spanish, let them help you teach the class.

- **Christmas** = Navidad
- **Celebration** = Celebración
- **Gift** = Regalo
- **Star** = Estrella
- **Love** = Amor
- **Stems** = Tallos

**History:** In Mexico, the holiday celebrations begin nine days before Christmas with Las Posadas (from the word for “inn”), a series of processions and parties. They are held at a different neighborhood home every night for nine days in a row. At dusk, guests arrive carrying lighted candles and asking the owners for shelter. The owners then open their doors and offer hot tamales, fried cookies known as buñuelos, and other holiday foods. The night usually ends with a piñata in the shape of the Christmas star. The last party on Christmas Eve is followed by midnight Mass at the local church (the setting for “The Legend of the Poinsettia”).

**Companion Song:** Sing “Las Mañanitas.” This is Mexico’s birthday song, and it is often sung to the baby on Christmas. Before singing the Spanish text, read through the English translation together so that your students understand the meaning.

Estas son las mañanitas que cantaba el rey David.  
**This is the morning song that King David sang.**  
 Hoy por ser tu cumpleaños, te las cantamos a ti.  
**Because today is your birthday, we’re singing it for you.**  
 Despierta, mi bien\*, despierta, mira que ya amaneció:  
**Wake up, my dear, wake up and see what dawn has brought:**  
 ya los pajaritos cantan; la luna ya se metió.  
**the birds are singing; the moon has set.**

\*“Mi bien” is often replaced with the name of the person being celebrated.

## Las Mañanitas

Mexican Folk Song



Es - tas son las ma - ña - ni - tas que can - ta - ba el rey Da -  
 vid. Hoy por ser tu cum - ple - a - ños, te las can - ta - mos a  
 ti. Des - pier - ta, mi bien, des - pier - ta, mi - ra que ya a - ma - ne -  
 ció: ya los pa - ja - ri - tos can - tan; la lu - na ya se me - tió.

Excerpt from *Sound Stories 'Round the Year* (00-42788)



# Miniature Yule Log Cakes

## Ingredients

- 1 box of swiss roll style snack cakes
- 1 jar of chocolate or vanilla frosting, or 1 recipe homemade
- *Decorations:* Toasted mini marshmallows, sprinkles, rosemary, sugared cranberries, Dots candies, powdered sugar for snow, etc.

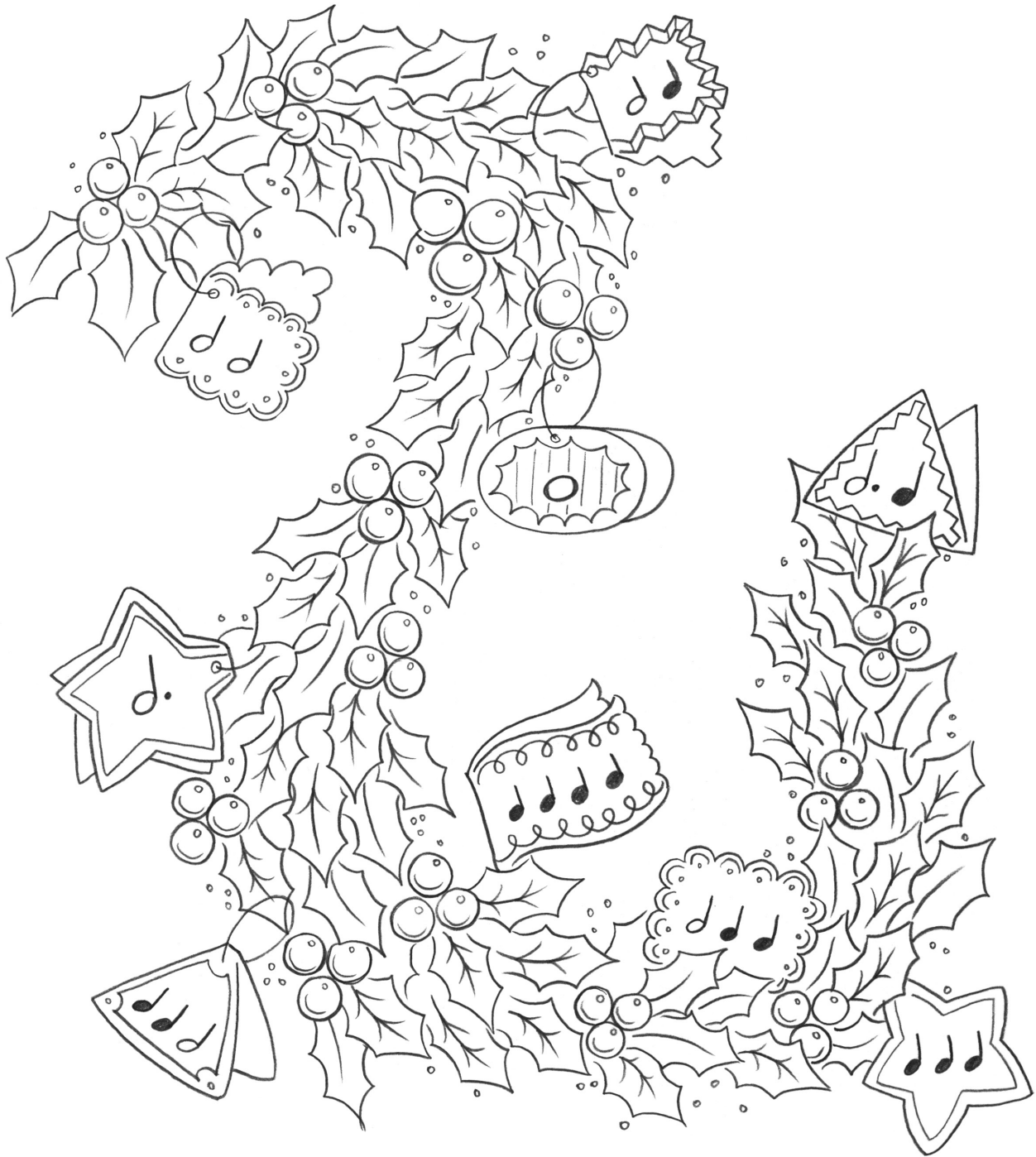
## Instructions

- 1.) Refrigerate the snack cakes for at least an hour to make them easier to slice.
- 2.) Carefully slice the ends off of 6 of the cakes, revealing the swirl in the middle. These are your logs.
- 3.) Cut the ends off of 2 more cakes at an angle, then slice into thirds at the same angle. Don't worry if the chocolate coating falls off.
- 4.) Use a small amount of frosting to attach one of the angled slices to the side of each log.
- 5.) Spread a thin layer of frosting on each cake, leaving the ends bare so that the swirl is still visible.
- 6.) Decorate with toasted marshmallows, sprinkles, etc. Be creative!



# Hanging the Garland Coloring Page

- 1 Clap and count each pattern aloud.
- 2 If the pattern has 4 counts, color the rhythm card red.
- 3 If the pattern has 3 counts, color the rhythm card yellow.
- 4 Then color the rest of the picture.



Excerpt from *Music For Little Mozarts, Christmas Fun! Book 2 (00-19721)*

# Christmas Song Emoji Pictionary

- 1.)  
- 2.)    
- 3.)  
- 4.)  
- 5.)  
- 6.)     
- 7.)   
- 8.)  
- 9.)             
- 10.)   

**Answer Key**  
 1.) Silent Night 2.) Silver Bells 3.) Frosty the Snowman 4.) Santa Baby 5.) Little Drummer Boy  
 6.) I'll Be Home for Christmas 7.) Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer 8.) Joy to the World  
 9.) The Twelve Days of Christmas 10.) Jingle Bell Rock

# Sheet Music Garland

## Materials

- 3 or more pages of spare sheet music (You can print some [here](#) if needed.)
- Scissors
- Glue, tape, double-sided tape, or stapler

### Optional:

- *Spray glue or glue sticks*
- *Glitter or mica snow*
- *Newspaper or similar to protect tabletops*



## Instructions

- 1.) Print the sheet music pages, double-sided if desired.
- 2.) Cut each page of sheet music into approximately 5 strips (widthwise).
- 3.) *Optional:* Cover tabletop, lightly spray strips with spray glue, a few at a time, and dust with glitter or mica snow. Alternatively, use a glue stick to apply strips of glitter to the edges of the sheet music strips.
- 4.) Once glue is dry, form a ring with one of the strips, attaching it with glue, tape, or a stapler. Thread the next strip through the first ring and secure it into a ring. Continue with remaining strips to complete the garland.