

Songs for November

We will sing "Over the River and through the Woods" and see books that depict this Thanksgiving song in the eighteen hundreds and the nineteen hundreds. An illustration of the dapple gray horse in the book leads straight into "Jingle Bells", one of the most loved sleigh ride songs.

The children love the finger play chant with my finger puppets called "five little turkeys" and laugh when the turkeys "eat" the farmer.

We will learn the song and dance "Any Turkey Can Tango." You can check out the song on YouTube.

We'll also go on an imaginary "Fox Hunt" and gallop on our horses moving to the rhythms of the fox running, and the panting hunting hounds while listening to Vivaldi's "Autumn Movement" from the "Four Seasons." Of course we we're always glad that the Fox was *not* caught. This exercise in careful listening helps the children focus on the different musical themes in the piece.

Turkey Dinner (to the tune of Frere Jacques)

turkey dinner, turkey dinner
gather round, gather round
who will get the drumstick, the yummy yummy drumstick
all sit down, all sit down
cornbread muffins, chestnut stuffing
pumpkin pie, ten feet high!
we were all much thinner
before we ate our dinner
me oh my, me oh my!

A *Ram Sam Sam* is a hand motion circle song and the children slap their thighs on Ram and and clap their hands on Sam and spin their hands like a ferris wheel on Gully. For Arahfy they make a rainbow in the air with two hand each time the word is sung.

A ram sam sam (repeat) Gully gully gully gully gully ram sam sam (repeat this line)
Arahfy, Arahfy
Gully gully gully gully gully ram sam sam
repeat

In honor of the native Americans who celebrated the first Thanksgiving we will learn a round called Dip, Dip and Swing. Here are the lyrics!

My paddle is keen and bright, flashing like silver/Swift as the wild geese flight, dip, dip,
and swing/Dip, dip, and swing her back, flashing like silver/Swift as the wild geese flight
dip dip and swing.