

# Musical Moments

## Fun for Thanksgiving

### Mr. Turkey - chant

I have a turkey, big and fat.  
(*Make a fist with one hand-thumb out for turkey's head*)

He spreads his tail and walks like that.  
(*Attach "tail" by spreading out fingers of other hand and join together*)

His daily corn he would not miss.  
(*Poke with thumb at floor*)

And when he talks, it sounds like this:  
"Gobble, Gobble, Gobble!"

### Thanksgiving Dinner -Sung to "Frere Jacques"

We eat tur-key, we eat tur-key.  
Oh, so good, Oh so good.

Al-ways on Thanks-giv-ing, al-ways on Thanks-giv-ing  
Yum - yum - yum! Yum - yum - yum!

Second Verse: Mashed po-ta-toes

Third Verse: Pie and Ice-cream

Fourth Verse: Home-made bis-cuits

Fifth Verse: Tur-key dress-ing

*"Research shows that when a child listens to classical music, the right hemisphere of the brain is activated, and when a child studies a musical instrument, both left and right hemispheres of the brain 'light up.' Significantly, the areas that become activated are the same areas that are involved in analytical and mathematical thinking."*

**Dee Dickson, "Music and the Mind"**

### I've Got a Rhythm

By Jackie Silberg:  
"The I Can't Sing Book"

This is an excellent book for parents or teachers who do not feel that they sing well or are uncomfortable doing musical activities with their child. Check it out!

- Say the following poem.  
*I've got a rhythm*  
*Listen to my rhythm*  
*I've got a rhythm*  
*Can you do it too?*

- Say a simple word four times in an even steady rhythm:  
*dog, dog, dog, dog*

- Ask your child to say the word with you.

- Now clap your hands each time you say the word and ask your child to join you:  
*clap, clap, clap, clap*
- Say the poem again. When you ask "can you do it too?" clap four times with an even, steady beat. Ask your child to copy you.
- Express the rhythm with other body actions such as snapping fingers, clicking tongues or jumping up and down.
- Try animal sounds such as dogs barking and ducks quacking to express the rhythm.

### Kidstunes' Additions:

- Vary the word lengths — using long & short — so it is no longer a steady beat but a rhythm. See if your child can copy you. Increase the degree of difficulty as they get the hang of it.
- Clap out the child's name or other names and words. Rule of thumb: one clap per syllable.
- Add pitches to the rhythms—creating a melody—and have your child copy both the pitch and rhythmic patterns. Then, ask your child to make one up for you to copy!