



CAMBRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PRESENTS:

Water's Children

CELEBRATING THE RESOURCE THAT UNITES US ALL

3-5 AND CHORUS

DECEMBER 9, 2025

6:15 PM

Listening Guide 4-6 CHORUS

The Water is Wide

Traditional arranged by Teresa Jennings

This traditional song gives the chorus an opportunity to practice singing in 2 or 3 parts. We will begin with 4 students sharing a 2 part duet. All students interested in the solo had to audition to be considered.

Snow Snow Snow

Traditional arranged by Teresa Jennings

This song is a jazzy number and again allows us to practice simple part singing. We also had a lot of practice following sheet music. There were a lot of symbols including repeats, first and second endings, d.s. al codas and a coda to understand, all while following a score with 3 different voice parts.

4TH GRADE

Rhythm of the Rain

Jerry Estes

This is by far our hardest song. Fourth graders will provide all the background music on a variety of classroom instruments. The song has a collection of ostinati that are layered together to create a complete rain soundscape. The singers will all sing together and then layer their melodies on top of each other. This song had no recordings for us to listen to or practice with, just sheet music and iconic music to learn from.

Peace like a River

African American Spiritual arranged by Rollo Dilworth

This is in a traditional spiritual style. While the words and melody repeat, this song was sung to help lift spirits and communicate that, no matter what, you can still have peace, love and joy.

We will explore more spirituals and "code" songs in the winter months.

I Saw Three Ships

Traditional Carol arranged by John Riggio

This is our only true holiday song tonight. The tempo is fast which requires good enunciation and rhythmic accuracy.



3RD GRADE

Funga Alafia/Kye Kye Kule

Traditional West African songs (possibly from Liberia or Nigeria and Ghana)

The first song is a greeting song that comes from a variety of areas and it most closely uses the Yoruba language. It roughly translates to "Welcome, we offer you peace." Several students will play classroom instruments to accompany the body percussion that the rest of the class is performing while also singing. On the xylophones, you will hear 4 students play the melody as a call and response song. Two student leaders will then sing the calls in the nonsense song "Kye, Kye Kule." This song from Ghana is there variation of our "head, shoulder, knees and toes" game.

Listen to the Water

Denise Gagne

This song is also in a call and response model. The class will sing the chorus together, however, the verses are in call and response. Four brave students will be the leaders for each of the verses and the class will respond to the call.

Sweet Water

Teresa Jennings

This sweet song is a two part round. We will start by singing together and then will sing in a 2 part round.

5TH GRADE

My Paddle's Keen and Bright and Land of the Silver Birch

Folk song, Margaret Embers McGee arranged by Beth Thompson and M. Cloutier

These songs are traditional Canadian folk songs that celebrate their native peoples and cultures. Both songs can be sung as rounds and they can combine and become partner songs as well. Tonight, many students will play the background music on classroom instruments while the singers will perform in many ways. You will hear unison singing of both songs, both songs as rounds and also layered and sung at the same time.

Let it Grow (Celebrate the World)

Ester Dean, Christopher Stewart, John Powell, Cinco Paul, Aaron Pearce adapted by Music Express
Fifth grade has been working on syncopation. All three songs have the same rhythm pattern somewhere in their melodies. This song explores some simple two part harmonies in our chorus and will feature a student soloist.

A New World

John Jacobson and John Higgins

This song celebrates the Chinese culture and believing in yourself to show courage - one of our school themes this year. Last year, these students studied the Chinese New Year ending with a dragon dance incorporating fans. As a flashback to last winter, we dusted off the Chinese fans for you tonight.

ALL STUDENTS

A Song of Peace

Teresa Jennings

Our final song will be sung and signed by all concert participants. It is our wish as you leave the performance tonight, you will look for the things that connect us and not divide us. This song features 4 groups of duets or trios, some featured signers and then ensemble singing.



Many thanks:

**Jeremy and the tech crew
Al, Dondi, Martha and Steve
Amanda Graner, Cassie Calebresse,
Danielle Oldenburg, Pam Cushman
The IA's who have assisted along the way
Classroom teachers**

