

Junior English Timesaver

Clifford™
Songs
and Chants

by Carolyn Graham and Lucy Blackburn

 SCHOLASTIC

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Introduction

Welcome to *Timesaver Clifford Songs and Chants*. This book includes ten songs and five chants by Carolyn Graham with exploitation activities by Lucy Blackburn. The songs and chants cover a range of themes suited to children such as animals, feelings, clothing, numbers and colours. Simple language functions and items are presented in each song and chant, thus promoting the development of language in context. Colouring, drawing and creative activities are included too, as well as suggestions for movement. The words of each song and chant are followed by notes for the teacher, which give guidance on how to introduce and teach it in a fun, meaningful way that encourages children's active participation. The notes also guide the teacher through the colouring, drawing and creative activities and give further suggestions for developing children's vocabulary and understanding of the language functions and items.

For each song and chant in this book, teachers are encouraged to do the following:

- Introduce the song or chant by giving each child a copy of the picture for them to colour. Help them to name the characters and the items in the picture and introduce new vocabulary. Say the title of the song or chant and discuss what it's about.
- Let the children listen to the song or chant a few times while they colour the picture. This will help them to become familiar with the words and the tune or rhythm.
- Sing the song or say the chant together with the children using the CD. Then invite your children to sing or say it to the music-only track. Divide the children into different groups to sing or say different parts.
- Move as you sing the song or say the chant. Follow the movements in the book and/or make up some of your own movements. You may find that the children naturally sway, clap, tap or click to the rhythm.
- Personalise the song or chant. Substitute the children's names or the names of people from their real lives.
- Change the words of the song or chant to make up your own variations. Do not worry if the new versions don't always rhyme – it is more important that the children explore and learn new language.
- Use the song or chant for teaching simple functions, structures and vocabulary in English. Following the suggestions in the teacher's notes, say key phrases or sentences, make up variations, ask and answer questions. Help the children to understand and use the new words and structures through pictures, actions and by playing simple games that enable them to practise the new language.
- Develop the children's skills through the activity that involves, for example, cutting, pasting, folding, joining dots or making something that relates to the song or chant. Demonstrate how to do the activity using instructions in English such as, *cut, make, find, count*, thereby developing their language skills as well. Display the children's work in the classroom and help them to talk about what they have done or made.
- Let the children express themselves creatively through the colouring and drawing activity. Encourage them to draw people, animals and things from their own lives and help them to name and describe what they have drawn.

Enjoy singing and chanting with Clifford!