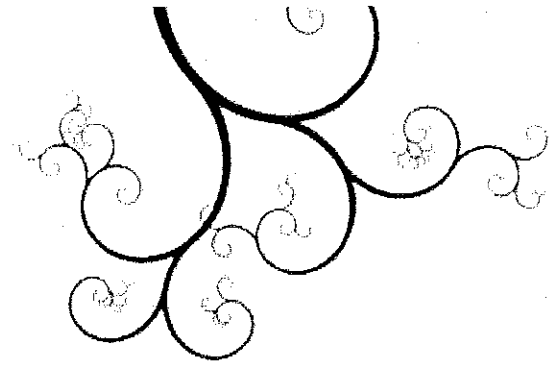


Parachute Fun



Recorded Songs

“Up So High” on *Kids Make Music, Babies Make Music Too* by Lynn Kleiner

“Shake and Stop” on *Kids Make Music, Babies Make Music Too* by Lynn Kleiner

“Alabama, Mississippi” on *Jim Gill Sings the Sneezing Song* by Jim Gill

“Popcorn” on *Snacktime* by the Barenaked Ladies

Parachute rides

Wheels on the Bus

Have the kids sit in the middle of the parachute and the parents pick up the edges.

For ‘round and ‘round, have the parents walk in a circle

For the doors open and shut, have the parents bring their hands together over the kid’s heads, then bring it back out.

For the wipers, stand still and wave the edge of the parachute back and forth.

Motor Boat

All the little kids sit on the parachute. All the big people stand outside. Pull the parachute around in (increasingly fast, but not too fast!) circles as you say:

Motor boat, motor boat, go so slow

Motor boat, motor boat, go so fast

Motor boat, motor boat, step on the gas!

Parachute Props

Cotton Balls

Play the popcorn song (listed above) and put cotton balls on the parachute. Shake the parachute slowly at first, and then more vigorously as the “pot” heats up. Have the kids throw the cotton balls back on and do it again!

Cotton balls can also be snow “falling.” Sing or play jingle bells or another wintery song as you shake.

Die cut (or real) leaves

Sing to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell”

The leaves are falling down, the leaves are falling down

Red, orange, yellow, green, and brown

The leaves are falling down.

Die cut (or real) flowers or flower petals

Sing to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell”

The flowers are coming up, the flowers are coming up

Yellow as a buttercup

The flowers are coming up

Five Little Whatsits

Put five stuffed monkeys or other animals (we have 5 small stuffed Tiggers we use) on the parachute, and bounce them off the bed. For each verse, count the right number to put back on the bed.

Do this rhyme and add a monkey each time:

One little monkey swinging in the tree,
Where's another monkey to play with me?

Or add goldfish:

One little goldfish swimming in the sea,
"Where's another goldfish to swim with me?"

Or get the fish or monkeys eaten:

Five little goldfish swimming in the sea
Teasing Mr. Shark, "You can't catch me!"
Along comes Mr. Shark, quiet as can be and -
SNAPS that goldfish out of the sea!
(Catch bouncing goldfish, one by one, and remove from parachute)

Spiders

Get a small rubber spider or spider ring, and sing "The Itsy Bitsy Spider." If you have a bigger stuffed spider, then sing it again changing the words to "the great big, hairy spider."

Action Songs

Classics like "Ring Around the Rosie," "The Hokey Pokey," "London Bridge is Falling Down," "The Grand Old Duke of York," "Here We Go 'Round the Mulberry Bush," and "Pop Goes the Weasel" are lots of fun to sing with a parachute.

Everybody Spin Around

Have the kids stand up and the parents hold the parachute above their heads. Sing to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb." Feel free to change the verses based on the colors on your parachute.

Everybody spin around, spin around, spin around
Everybody spin around, now touch the color red (pick a red apple)

Everybody march around/touch the color green (touch the green grass)
Everybody rock back and forth/ touch the color yellow (with your elbow)
Everybody jump up and down/touch the color blue (the blue sky)

When the Parachute Goes Up (to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know it")

When the parachute goes up, stomp your feet
When the parachute goes up, stomp your feet
When the parachute goes high, and lifts up to the sky
When the parachute goes up, stomp your feet
(Repeat with: bend your knees, shake your head, shout hooray!)

Come Under My Umbrella (to the tune of The More We Get Together)

Come under my umbrella, umbrella, umbrella
Come under my umbrella, it's starting to storm (gentle waving of the parachute)
There's thunder and lightning and wind and rain (fast, jerky shaking)
Come under my umbrella, it's starting to storm (back to gentle)

Shake the Parachute (to the tune of Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush)

Shake the parachute very fast, very fast, very fast.
Shake the parachute very fast early in the morning
etc.

Peek-a-boo Song (to the tune of Skip to My Loo)

Peek-a-boo, I see you
Peek-a-boo, I see you
Peek-a-boo, I see you
Let's play peek-a-boo.

Where Oh Where

Oh where, oh where, have the babies gone,
Oh where, oh where, where can they be?
Are they under here, are they under there
Oh where, oh where can they be?
THERE YOU ARE! PEEK A BOO!

Ring around the apple tree

Ring around the apple tree
All full of apples
Shake it
Shake it
They all fall down!

Stories

The Wind Blew by Pat Hutchins

Put the things that the wind blew on the parachute and shake.