

The farmer wants a wife

by Jackie Holderness & Annie Hughes

Level 3 • Elementary

Age: Primary (6–11)

Language aims: To listen for particular information, to write a song in English, to remember family names

Time: 15 minutes

Student grouping: Whole class

Materials: One copy of the worksheet per student (see Step 1); the audio (downloaded in advance or played via onestopenglish); some whitener to block out the print (e.g. tippex)

Language focus: *Mother, father, sister, brother, grandfather, grandmother, farmer, wife, child; dog, The ... wants a ...; ee ay adio*



Teaching tip

Make sure you are familiar with the song before starting the activity.

Procedure

Step 1

Take one copy of the worksheet and white out some of the text. You could block out *wants a* or *farmer, wife, child* and *dog*. You can choose. You may want to block out every third or fourth word.

Step 2

Give each child a copy of the worksheet with the words taken out. Tell them they are going to sing a song but they have to fill in the missing words.

Step 3

Get the class into four groups. Each group has to find the words for one verse, e.g. group one will do verse one, etc. Play the audio three times. The children listen to the song and fill in the gaps.

Step 4

After this ask each group to read out the words to their verse so that the other children can write these words out on their song sheet. The group must speak slowly and carefully for this activity.

Step 5

When all the words have been written on the sheet, play the song again and sing it as a whole class. This time when you sing verse four all the children can 'stroke' an imaginary pet dog!

Follow-up activity

1. Create another cloze song for the children to complete.
2. Block out some words on a copy of their favourite song and see if they can fill in the gaps without hearing the song.

Transcript

*The farmer wants a wife
The farmer wants a wife
Ee ay adio
The farmer wants a wife*

*The wife wants a child
The wife wants a child
Ee ay adio
The wife wants a child*

*The child wants a dog
The child wants a dog
Ee ay adio
The child wants a dog*

*We all stroke the dog
We all stroke the dog
Ee ay adio
We all stroke the dog*

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The wife wants a child

The wife wants a child

Ee ay adio

The wife wants a child

The child wants a dog

The child wants a dog

Ee ay adio

The child wants a dog

We all stroke the dog

We all stroke the dog

Ee ay adio

We all stroke the dog



WORKSHEET