

# The Songbird Symphony

Written by Jake Hunter, Beth Hunter  
and Aysha Imtiaz  
Illustrated by Bella Hunter



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Written by Jake Hunter, Beth Hunter and Aysha Imtiaz

Illustrated by Bella Hunter

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## STEM Taught® Grade 1 Next Generation Science

**1-PS4-1 Waves and Their Applications in Technologies for Information Transfer:** Plan and conduct investigations to provide evidence that vibrating materials can make sound and that sound can make materials vibrate.



# The Songbird Symphony

## Part 1

### Loud and proud sounds

Most birds like to hide in branches where it's cool and safe, but not Spiffy! This little brown mockingbird roosts on the tallest branch, so the whole world can hear his beautiful song.

"Tee tiri wee," he trilled loudly—the song of a jay!

"Coo coo, coo coo," he called out—the soft call of the mourning dove!

And then, his favorite call of all—the sound of a gold finch! "Po-ta-to cheep, po-ta-to-cheep, po-ta-to cheep."

*Mockingbird*





“Marvelous, Spiffy!” cried the goldfinch.

“Bravo!” cawed the friendly crow.

The animals were amazed and Spiffy was just getting started!

“Eeeee ohhhh eeee ohhhh!” he cried.

My, my, what bird was this? A seagull?

No, it couldn't be. Oh, yes! It was the ambulance on Fourth street.

“Vrooom vrooom putter-splutter vrooom,” belted out Spiffy at the top of his lungs.

A motorcycle? Clearly, Spiffy knew all sorts of interesting sounds.



What special sounds  
can you imitate?



vrooom!

puffer...

puffer...

E e e e e  
vrooom!!

vrooom

puffer~  
puffer.

vrooom?

Eeee

Ohhhhh!!

## Part 2

### Spiffy's Song, Gone Wrong!

"And now for the magnificent end of my performance!" Spiffy called. He proudly flew over to the open windowsill of Grandmother's bedroom. It was 6:00 AM.

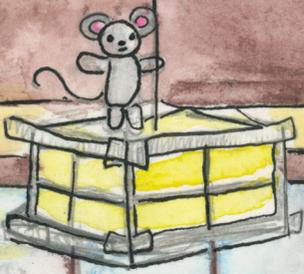
"Beep beep beep beep!" shrieked Spiffy.

"My alarm clock!" Grandmother exclaimed as she sat up in bed. "Is it 8:00 AM already?" she asked in a tired voice.

"Honk, honk, honk!" Spiffy bellowed.

"My car alarm!" Grandmother rushed to find her keys. "I must turn it off before it wakes the neighbors!"





enodenidenod  
p99b p99b p99b  
enidenod ena

Beep beep beep Beep  
Ding-dong ding dong  
Beep beep Beep



“Ding-dong ding-dong,” Spiffy called out.

“The doorbell! At this hour? Who could it possibly be?” asked grandmother aloud.

“I hope it’s not an emergency!”

Grandmother rushed to the front door in her pajamas but no one was there!

Spiffy saw that grandmother looked worried, tired and confused. It wasn’t quite the reaction he had expected.

Exhausted, Granny sat down to rest and turned on some soothing music. Spiffy was immediately transfixed by the sounds of a symphony!



What sounds could Spiffy make to help grandmother feel better?



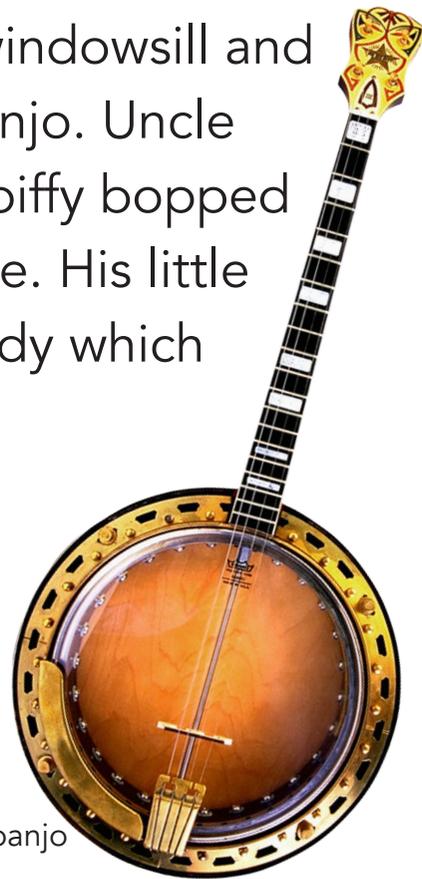
## Part 3

### The Song of the Banjo

"No more alarm clocks for me! No more doorbells, no sirree! The sound of music is the song I must sing!" Spiffy exclaimed. He searched for beautiful sounds of music all over the neighborhood.

He perched on Uncle's windowsill and heard him playing his banjo. Uncle plucked a jangly tune! Spiffy bopped his head from side to side. His little legs danced to the melody which was twangy and bright.

"Twang ta da da twang pluck pluck," he heard. Twing twang two-ong," Spiffy sang at first.



The banjo



“Twang ta da da twang pluck pluck,”  
he heard.

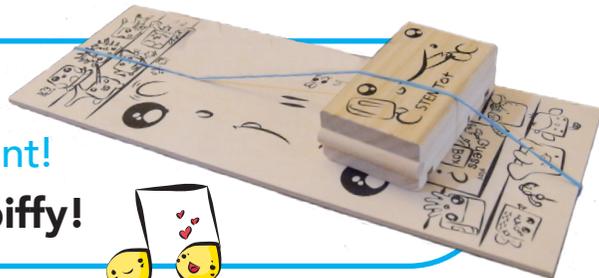
“Twing ta-da-ta-DAA,” he sang proudly.

That day, he spent hours and hours  
rehearsing his brand new song. The  
squirrels around him partnered up  
and swung their companions round  
and round. The butterflies had a new,  
banjo-ey attitude. They circled around  
each other in a wonderful do si do!

Spiffy had learned a really catchy song!



Get out your  
stringed instrument!  
Play along with Spiffy!





Twang ta da da Twang

Pluck Pluck

Pluck

Pluck Pluck

Twang da

Twang

Pluck Pluck!

## Part 4

### The Song of the Tambourine

The next day, Spiffy perched on Auntie's windowsill and listened to her play the tambourine. Its small metal cymbals rattled and jingled as she shook it.

Then, auntie held it with one hand and struck it with the other. Next, she rubbed the tambourine with her fingertips to send a shiver across its surface.

"Rat-tat-tat, Rat-tat-tat, tattee-tattu tat-tat-tat," heard Spiffy.

"Trrrrriiiiiing tat," he sang at first.

How does a  
tambourine vibrate  
to make sound?



The tambourine



“Rat-tat-tat, Rat-tat-tat, tattee-tattu tat-tat-tat,” Spiffy listened more carefully.

“Ratta-tat ratta-tat, rat-rat-rat,” sang Spiffy—he was getting closer!

He wished his feathers stretched all the way to the ground as he danced like a flamenco dancer.

It was...electric! Even the field mice wanted to join in.

Spiffy had learned a really catchy song!



Did you make a shaker or  
clap sticks? Take them out!

Play along with Spiffy!





## Part 5

### The Song of the Drum

Next, Spiffy perched on Brother's windowsill and listened to him play his drum. The drum boomed as he pounded on it. Brother made loud banging sounds that seemed to make little Spiffy's heart jump—it was exciting!

"Boom ba-ba boom ba-ba boom Boom BOOM," heard Spiffy.

"Booo-Ooom?" he sang at first.

"Boom ba-ba, boom ba-ba, boom Boom BOOM," Spiffy listened.

He puffed up his chest to sing as loudly as he could.



The drum



“Boom ba-Boom!” Spiffy sang.

He spent the day rehearsing his brand new song. He ate extra berries to get lots of energy because booming was hard work!

The moles in the garden plugged their ears and ducked down into their burrows!

The hedgehog family danced along. They hopped and bopped to Spiffy’s unforgettable ditty.

Spiffy had learned a really catchy song!



Did you make a drum?  
Take it out!

**Play along with Spiffy!**





boom

ba ba boom

Boom ba ba Boom!

Ba ba Boom boom boom!

Boom ba

Ba

Ba

Ba

Boom boom!

Boom!!

## Part 6

### The Song of the Wind Instruments

Granny was playing music in her garden. He perched on a branch to listen to the song of her flute.

It was unlike anything Spiffy had ever heard before. The sounds melted into one another creating a swirl of melodies. It sounded like she was blowing fairies into the evening sky. The sweet sound was so enchanting it was like a fairytale.

“Tootely tootely pippety pip too-whoo,” heard Spiffy.

And this time, “Tootely tootely pippety pip too-whoo,” was exactly what Spiffy sang.



The flute



This song was the most beautiful of all. Spiffy had mastered a really catchy song! And now, he was ready to create his own symphony of sounds.

He flew atop the TALLEST branch, where everyone could see him and he sang all the sounds he had been practicing.

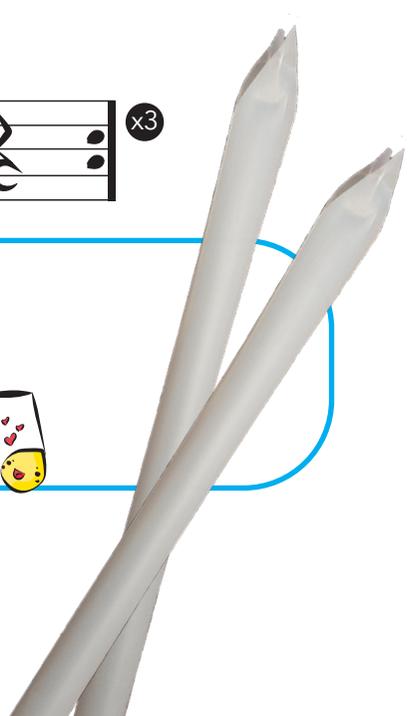
All of the animals stood in amazement. Even Granny listened. When Spiffy was finished, he could see a single happy tear stream down her face.

It wasn't the reaction he was expecting. It was even better.

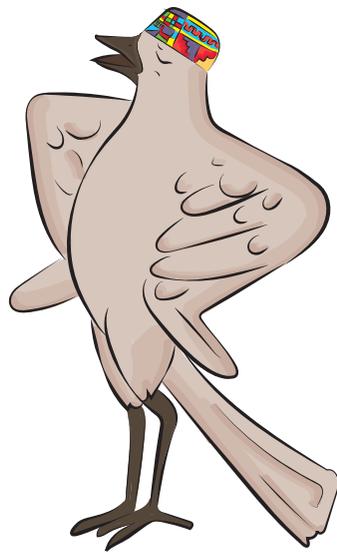


Did you make a straw kazoo? Take it out!

**Play along with Spiffy!**







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