Section III: Songs

Music in the Classroom

In addition to being fun and providing joy, scientists have found that music strengthens the connection between the brain and the body, and improves learning on almost every level, including recall.

Students remember a message better when words have a melody, movement and rhythm attached to them. In that way, words provide facts and feelings.

When learning about human rights, music can be an effective way to help students remember and think about the messages they are hearing.

Each culture has its own songs, of course, that can be used for teaching important principles dealing with human rights. Use the ones that appeal to the youth you teach, and that are comfortable for you.

Most of the songs in this section are taken from The Children's Songbook. It was first published in English in 1989 for the Primary, which is a children's organization for youngsters between the ages of 18 months and 12 years old. However, the songs can be used and enjoyed by any age.

Be Our Best Here We Are Together I'll Walk with You Kindness Begins with Me This Little Light of Mine We Are Different

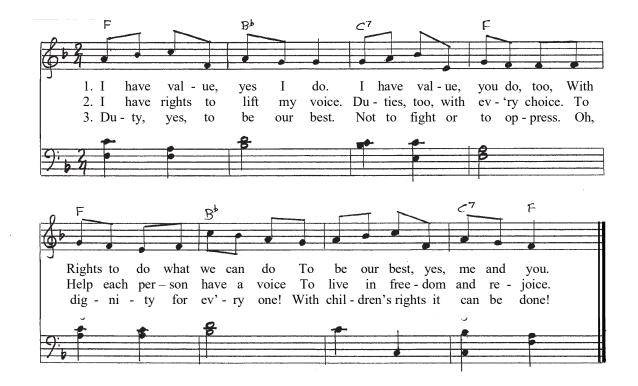
All of these songs may be used as poems or chants as well.

To hear other songs that are available, please go to the RESOURCES tab on the website: www.go-hre.org/music

Be Our Best

Chant:

Dignity and children's rights! Oh, dignity for ev'ryone! Dignity and children's rights! Oh, dignity! It can be done!



Chant

Dignity and children's rights! Oh, dignity for ev'ryone! Dignity and children's rights! Oh, dignity! It can be done!

Song

1. I have value, yes I do. I have value. You do, too, With rights to do what we can do To be our best, yes, me and you.

- 2. I have rights to lift my voice, Duties, too, with ev'ry choice, To help each person have a voice, To live in freedom and rejoice.
- 3. Duty, yes, to be our best, Not to fight or to oppress. Oh, dignity for ev'ryone! With children's rights, it can be done!

Here We Are Together



Here we are together,* together, together;

Oh, here we are together with our happy face.

There's (child's name) and (another name) and (another name) and (another name);

Oh, here we are together in our happy place.

*Alternate phrases: Here we go a-walking Here we are a-singing

Here we go a-marching Here we are a-clapping

Improvise actions as suggested by the words.

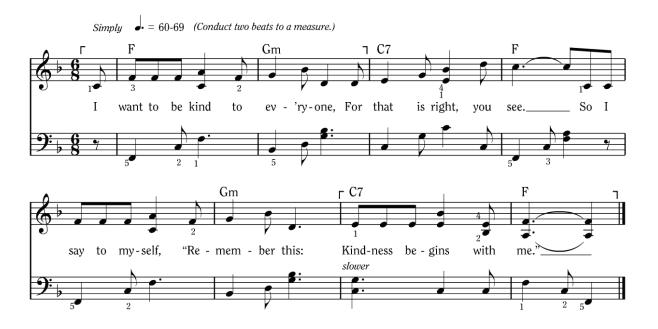
The list above is only a few of the possibilities.

Consider other phrases that might fit the music and the occasion.

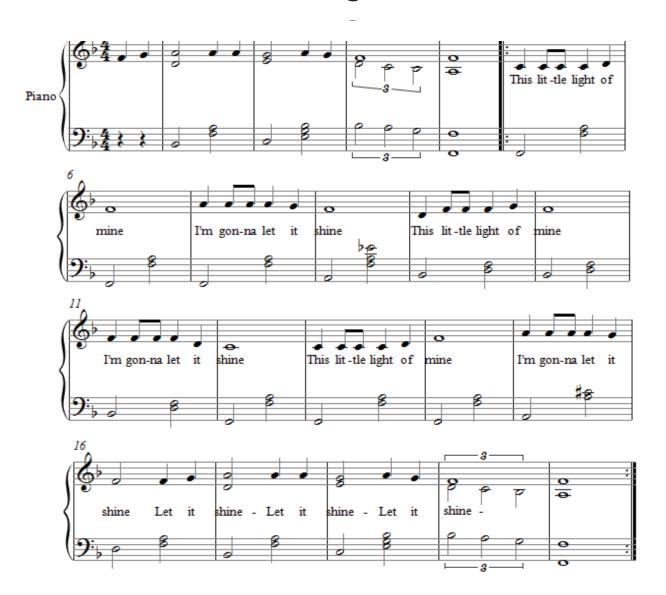
I'll Walk With You



Kindness Begins With Me



This Little Light of Mine



- 1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!
- 2. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine, Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine, Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!
- 3. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

We Are Different

