



Pathways

Making connections by singing

Inspirations

A C T I V I T Y B O O K L E T

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Inspirations

Beauty of the World

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Room
217
Care through Music

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INSPIRATIONS – BEAUTY OF THE WORLD

- ♪ Somewhere Over the Rainbow
- ♪ Everything is Beautiful
- ♪ On the Sunny Side of the Street
- ♪ Blue Skies
- ♪ What a Wonderful World

Introduction from the Video

Today we are going to sing some songs about the beautiful world we live in.

We are surrounded by such natural beauty in our world. From majestic mountains and trees, to lakes and oceans. From flowers to birds and wildlife.

There are so many beautiful places around the world, too.

Special places like the Galapagos Islands off the coast of South America, where there are many kinds of animals and plants not seen anywhere else on earth.

On the other side of the world is the Great Wall of China. It is quite magnificent and beautiful as it weaves up and down the hills and valleys of this great country. It took many hundreds of years to build the wall to its current length of more than 5,000 miles.

And there is an especially beautiful Greek island in the Mediterranean called Santorini. Isn't it breathtaking?





Somewhere Over the Rainbow

Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high
There's a land that I heard of once in a lullaby
Somewhere over the rainbow, skies are blue
And the dreams that you dare to dream
Really do come true

Someday I'll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds are far behind me
Where troubles melt like lemon drops
Away above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me

Somewhere over the rainbow, bluebirds fly
Birds fly over the rainbow
Why then, oh why can't I?

If happy little bluebirds fly beyond the rainbow
Why, oh why can't I?

Song Script from the Video

I think one of the most beautiful things in the world is a rainbow. There are many colours in a rainbow and they can light up the sky wonderfully after a rainfall or sun shower. There's a famous song about rainbows sung by Judy Garland in *The Wizard of Oz*. Are you ready to sing? *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*.



Taste a Rainbow

Make a food rainbow creating visual rainbows. Create rainbows on a tray or serving plates. Use at least 5 colours in the rainbow. Here are suggestions of foods you can use: Smarties or M & Ms, Neapolitan ice cream, variety of fruits that are different colours, several flavours of Jell-O, miniature marshmallows, several colours of licorice, jelly beans or Jelly Bellies, variety of vegetables that are different colours.

Materials Needed	Prep Mins
variety of colourful foods, tray or serving plates	30



Name That Colour Song

Divide the participants into 2 teams. Think of songs that have a colour reference in the title. The team with the most songs wins. Songs could include: *Yellow Rose of Texas*, *Red River Valley*, *Blue Moon*, *Green, Green, Grass of Home*, *Love is Blue*, *Blue Suede Shoes*, *Ebony and Ivory*, *Yellow Submarine*, *Crimson and Clover*, *Man in Black*.

none	none
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The Wizard of Oz

Watch the movie: *The Wizard of Oz*. Name characters in the movie (Dorothy, Lion, Wizard, Munchkins, Wicked Witch of the West, etc.). Talk about the life of the childhood star. Watch the Band of the Wizard of Oz.

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coloured tissue paper, suncatcher supplies or kit	30
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mobile supplies or kit	45
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...es that are seen in the sky including ...ies, birds, clouds, stars, sun, and moon. Mobile ... available in craft stores or use an online design. Sky ... can be made from paper, plastic, wood or fabric. Hang in a sitting area.



Everything is Beautiful

Jesus loves the little children all the children of the world
Red and yellow, black and white they are precious in his sight
Jesus loves the little children of the world

Everything is beautiful in its own way
Like a starry summer night, or a snow-covered winter's day
And everybody's beautiful in their own way
Under God's heaven, the world's gonna find the way

There is none so blind as he who will not see
We must not close our minds. We must let our thoughts be free
For every hour that passes by, we know the world gets a little
bit older
It's time to realize that beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder

Song Script from the Video

This next song we'll sing is called *Everything is Beautiful*. It was written by Ray Stevens in the 1970's. He liked to start the song by first singing a couple of verses of the old Sunday School song, *Jesus Loves the Little Children*. So let's start by singing this song



Seed Garden

Gardens are beautiful because they are colourful and prolific. Flower and vegetable gardens are popular. Plant seeds or plant a garden in pots in order to grow flowers or vegetables. Place containers on a tray and near a window where they will get plenty of sunshine in order to grow. Water accordingly.

Materials Needed	Prep Mins
potting soil, pots or containers to plant seeds, tray	30



Basket of Beauties

Assemble a basket of beautiful natural objects. Pass the basket around and pick out an item to feel. Items could include feathers, shells, photos of animals, leaves, flowers.

basket, 10-12 natural items	30
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Beauty Queen

They say "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" and that "beauty is only skin deep". Ask participants what they think that means. Is beauty always about appearances? Show pictures of animals like porcupines, aardvarks, monkey, blowfish, warthog, elephant. Ask participants to describe what is beautiful about each of these animals. Have participants admire in what seems unusual.

Contrasts

Play 2



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glamorous items, make up, hair salon, camera, backdrop, red carpet	90
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On the Sunny Side of the Street

Grab your coat and get your hat
Leave your worries on the doorstep
Just direct your feet to the sunny side of the street

Can't you hear a pitter-pat
And that happy tune is your step
Life can be so sweet on the sunny side of the street

I used to walk in the shade with those blues on parade
Now I'm not afraid, this rover's crossed over

If I never had a cent
I'd be rich as Rockefeller
Gold dust at my feet on the sunny side of the street

Song Script from the Video

When it's cloudy or raining outside, do you sometimes feel a little blue? And do you think, if the sun would just come out, it would feel so much better? Well, our next song is about that. How much nicer it can feel when we leave our worries and blues behind us and cross over to the *Sunny Side of the Street*.

INSPIRATIONS: BEAUTY OF THE WORLD
On the Sunny Side of the Street



Looking at the Sunny Side

Discuss what the "sunny side" means. Ask participants questions like: How do they get to the sunny side? Are they an optimistic person typically? How do they stay positive/optimistic? How do they change their mood to positive? What cheers them up? Who are some famous optimist/dreamers? Thomas Edison (electricity), Albert Einstein (theory of relativity), Abraham Lincoln (united nation), John Lennon (peace), Martin Luther King Jr (freedom), Steven Spielberg (movie producer).



Hot Potato Hats

Participants are seated in a circle. Hot potato style, pass a number of funny hats around the circle to the vocal track. When the music stops, everyone puts on their funny hats.



Streetwise

Do some activities that are typical street activities. Activities could include sweeping the driveway, shovelling the driveway/sidewalk, collecting mailboxes, riding bikes, driving car.



Street Parade

Parades happen there and there are street parades.

Materials Needed	Prep Mins
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none	none
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a variety of hats, vocal track #10, player	15
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umbrella for each participant, vocal track #10, player	20
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Blue Skies

Blue skies smiling at me
Nothing but blue skies do I see

Bluebirds singing a song
Nothing but bluebirds all day long

Never saw the sun shining so bright
Never saw things going so right
Noticing the days hurrying by
When you're in love, my how they fly

Blue days all of them gone
Nothing but blue skies from now on

Song Script from the Video

Now that we have been to the sunny side of the street, all we have are *Blue Skies* above us. This next song was written by Irving Berlin back in the 1920's, and has been performed by many popular musicians, like Benny Goodman and Count Basie, and singers like Al Jolson and Bing Crosby. It became popular all over again when country singer Willie Nelson recorded it in the late 1970's. Does this sound familiar? That's right. It's *Blue Skies*. Here we go.



Blue Mural

Cut out blue items of all different shades. Create a mural of blue items. Hang to decorate. Listen to Joni Mitchell's album *Blue* in the background.



Weather Vane

Share stories of significant weather memories (hurricane, tornado, snowstorm, hail, microburst). Discuss Canadian weather and the meaning of this quote "If you don't like the weather, wait 20 minutes".



Blues Artists

The "blues" has deep roots. Blues music is made up of many different styles. There are many blues artists.



Blueberry Skywalker

Go outside and look at the sky. Ask participants questions like: What do they see? Is the sky blue today? What shade of blue is the sky today? If there are clouds in the sky, talk about the shapes of the clouds.

Materials Needed	Prep Mins
magazines, scissors, mural paper, glue, Joni Mitchell's album <i>Blue</i>	15

blueberries, bowls, spoons	10
none	none

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What a Wonderful World

I see trees of green, red roses, too,
I see them bloom, for me and you
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world.

I see skies of blue, and clouds of white,
The bright blessed day, the dark sacred night
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world

The colours of the rainbow, so pretty in the sky,
Are also on the faces of people going by
I see friends shaking hands, saying, "How do you do?"
They're really saying, "I love you"

I hear babies crying, I watch them grow
They'll learn much more than I'll ever know
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world

Song Script from the Video

We've come to our final song for today. And what better song to celebrate the beauty of the world than What a Wonderful World. This song was written especially for Louis Armstrong. When he released this song, it became one of the best-selling records ever, and people still buy it today. Let's think of all the beautiful things in the world while we sing *What a Wonderful World*.



Meet Louis Armstrong

Show the life of Louis Armstrong, singer and trumpeter. Present YouTube videos of old video footage. Encourage discussion by asking participants: What is their favourite Louis Armstrong song? Have they heard Louis Armstrong live? Did they have any Louis Armstrong recordings? What were Armstrong's nicknames (Satchmo and Pops)? Ask for other Louis Armstrong song favourites including *Mack the Knife*, *Basin Street Blues*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Hello Dolly*, *Baby It's Cold Outside*, *Summertime*, *It Don't Mean a Thing*.

Materials Needed	Prep Mins
video or YouTube clip of Louis Armstrong performing various	20



Acts of Kindness

Discuss what it means to be kind. Ask the effects of kindness? Have participants been the "actor of kindness" or been the "recipient" or stories of kindness. Examples: *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, *Random Acts of Kindness*.

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Around the World

Use a globe to talk about different areas around the world and the beauty found around the world. Focus on continents, countries, beautiful places, architecture, land, water. Ask participants where they have travelled around the world. Show each other destinations. Talk about methods of travel to go around the world including plane, boat. Extension: Show the movie: *Around the World in 80 Days*. What would it be like to travel in a hot air balloon?

Images of people helping each other	30
bubble liquid and wands	5
globe	5



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