

This group singing activity lies on the very edge of the definition of a Global Bite, but children, teachers and parents all enjoy it so much, and it is such an effective use of daily life artefacts that it seems a pity to miss it out. The children in the partner country enjoy it too, and this reciprocity makes it all the more attractive as an activity. It doesn't take long.

It is easiest to do if you, as facilitator, are familiar with the country the song is about, and it also helps if you feel confident about leading the singing – although you can always rope in a volunteer for this.

Ingredients:

- A collection of daily life artefacts and photos from your country of choice – a GLADE country collection is ideal. Make sure you have ready from it each artefact that can be used for a verse of the song, and photos to clarify if needed.
- A group of enthusiastic small children.
- Optional – their parents too – get them to join in if they will!
- At least one adult who can sing and who knows the tune of the song “Here we go round the mulberry bush”
- A large space – a school or village hall is good.

Method: length of time: 20 – 30 mins

Age range: 4 - 11yrs

- The bite works best if you have already done some work with the children on the country concerned, and Introduced the artefacts in the collection. The song then becomes a sort of summary of what they have learnt.
- Choose an object which is used in a different way from in UK, [eg a sweeping brush from Zambia} and teach them to sing
 “This is the way we clean the floor, clean the floor, clean the floor,
 “This is the way we clean the floor, when we live in Zambia”
 (one child uses the Zambian brush while the others mime)
- Ask them to do the same thing miming a vacuum cleaner, “when we live in England”
- Continue like this for whatever objects are appropriate – carry water, dig the garden, eat our food (teach them to mime eating nshima), greet our friends (Zambian handshake), carry the baby etc etc – obviously it depends on the country, and the artefacts you have available.

Global issues raised: cultural difference, inequality

Additional resources: If you can dress them up too. Show them photos – and use these to reduce the chance of too much stereotyping.

Where to use this global bite: holiday schemes, parents' evenings; linking events – do involve any visitors you have from the country concerned.

Variations on the theme: Turn it into a show for the parents to watch.

