

HAPPY HARRY'S HEDGEHOG BAND

*Here you will find the base **narrative** along with notes to help you with content and ideas for this story. Every time I tell the story it is different. The narrative is fluid. Watch the video through first and then read over this 'script'*

Please note that what you are watching is the finished product not the process of getting there, which for me is the most important part and so the notes reflect the journey and not the destination.

It's nice to share what we have learned by the end but in reality the learning itself is where all the fun takes place.

Typically I run 5 sessions of 45 mins-1 hour duration to get to the point in session 6 (Which is where the films were made) where we can 'show and tell' to other classes and family.

Deep in the heart of [insert local woodland/nature place name] there lived a Happy Hedgehog by the name of HARRY.

After a few tellings you can cup your hand to your ear and the children will shout out his name. (If there are no Hedgehogs in your culture then substitute for a different well known animal and adapt the story)

Harry loved noise so he made a drum

Ask what do we make drums with children? Work with the drum type you have. Maybe wood/string/skin/ plastic etc. Use the answer in the story. In my version we mostly have a wood/string/skin version.

Harry found some [knock on the shell...children say wood] and some [pull string children say string] and some [rub hands on skin children say skin] and he made himself a drum

He banged on his drum TUM TUM TEE TUM [1 + a 2]

Put hand to ear to encourage response/echo and repeat call and response a few times whilst saying and playing TUM TUM TEE TUM If they struggle do say it, say it then clap it, then Play it. You can also encourage the use of two sounds too. TUM=BASS TEE=TONE

Harry played and played until it was time to sleep and then when he woke up he played some more. He was having lots of fun.

Meanwhile out in the middle of the woods that day there was a friend of Harry's. She was a girl hedgehog and her name was HELEN. Helen was picking yellow and white flowers to make a necklace with.(Daisy Chain)

Do you know what kind of flowers children? Daisies may be UK specific so alter accordingly

Helen had made a necklace and a bracelet and was just about to make something new when she stopped, pricked up her ears and listened! Far away there was a sound in the woods she had never heard before

What do you think it was children? What did it sound like far away? Loud or quiet

[SOFTLY] TUM TUM TEE TUM she heard [children echo quietly]

Helen stopped picking flowers and began to move towards the sound.

As she gets closer what happens to the sound children?

[MED VOL] TUM TUM TEE TUM [Children echo]

Closer she moved, Louder went the drums

[LOUD VOL] TUM TUM TEE TUM [Children echo]

Soon Helen was in the clearing where Harry was drumming

[LOUDEST VOL] TUM TUM TEE TUM played Harry [Loud echo from children Repeat as many times as you wish]

"Hi Harry" said Helen "Where did you get that cool drum from?"

"I made it" said Harry

"How did you do that" asked Helen

"Well I got some" (knock shell...WOOD)(pull string...STRING) (rub hands on....SKIN) and I made this drum" said Harry. Helen was impressed. "Can you make one for me" she asked

"Of course" said Harry. Helen fetched the materials, gave them to Harry and he made her a drum

Helen held the drum close to her and said "Oh Harry...it's so beautiful. I love it. You are my best friend.

Can I play TUM TUM TEE TUM with you now?"

"No" said Harry

"Why not" said a sad Helen

"It's my rhythm" said Harry, "You have to make up your own"

"How do I do that?" asked Helen

"Think" said Harry (encourage children to use thinking faces/actions)

So Helen thought....and thought...and thought...and then suddenly she said "I've got one.

Helen played DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM (repeat a few times) [1 e + a 2]

DIDDLE=TONE DUM=BASS

Harry loved it. "Let's play together" he suggested. So they did.

Call out Harry Plays and lead the response. Repeat as you wish .

"Harry plays" TUM TUM TEE TUM (All together)

"Helen plays" DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM (All together)

Harry and Helen played and played and played and they had lots of fun.

Out at the edge of the woodland, at the top of a small hill was another Hedgehog by the name of Norbert. Norbert was curled up in a ball.

Ask the children...why do Hedgehogs curl up in a ball? Many answers are given (sleeping, hibernating, hiding, scared etc) Praise the children for their knowledge of Hedgehogs but say that's not the reason why.

Somebody may guess but don't wait too long before telling them that it was because Norbert wanted to roll down the hill. Now for some fun.

Shall we roll down the hill children? Here's how.

Curl up in a ball.

Count to three (1.....2.....3.....)

Make the rolling down the hill noise (ask them if they know how...sometimes they do/sometimes not...work with what they give you)

Whoo.....
once we get to the bottom let's do a big TA DAAAAA (Hands out to the side) Repeat as much as you like.

Norbert was about to climb the hill to have another go when he stopped, pricked up his ears and listened. Far away in the distance there was a sound in the woods he had never heard before. What do you think it was children? What did it sound like far away? Loud or quiet?

[SOFTLY]

TUM TUM TEE TUM [children echo]

DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM [Children echo] Repeat as you wish

Norbert began to move towards the sound. As he got closer the sound get louder:

[MED VOL]

TUM TUM TEE TUM [Children echo]

DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM [Children echo]

Repeat as you wish

Closer he moved, Louder went the drums

[LOUD VOL]

TUM TUM TEE TUM [Children echo]

DIDDLE DUM [Children echo]

Repeat as you wish

Soon Norbert was in the clearing where Harry was drumming

[LOUDEST VOL]

TUM TUM TEE TUM played Harry [children echo]

DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM played Helen [Children echo]

Repeat as you wish

"WOW Harry" said Norbert "You have a cool drum. Where did you get that from?"

"I made it" said Harry

"How did you do that?" asked Norbert

"Well I got some" (knock shell...WOOD)(pull string...STRING) (rub hands on....SKIN) and I made this drum" said Harry. Norbert thought this was cool. "Can you make one for me" he asked

"Of course" said Harry. Norbert fetched the materials, gave them to Harry and he made him a drum

Norbert held the drum close to him and said "Oh Harry...it's soooo coool. I love it. You are my best friend. Can I play TUM TUM TEE TUM with you now?"

"No" said Harry (At this point the children will be saying 'No' and can tell you why)

"Oh!" said Norbert "That's a bit odd" and he turned to Helen and asked,

"Can I play DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM with you please"

Helen looked at Harry who shook his head. "No" said Helen.

Norbert looked sad. "Why not?" he said

"These are our own rhythms" said Harry "You have to make up your own"

"How do I do that then" said Norbert

"Think" said Harry

So Norbert thought and he thought and thought and thought and then suddenly he said "I've got one. I think you'll like this?"

And Norbert played RAT A TAT TAT (1 e + 2)

Harry and Helen loved it. "Let's all play together" said Harry

So they did.

Lead with the calls

"Harry plays" TUM TUM TEE TUM (all together)

"Helen plays" DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM (all together)

"Norbert plays" RAT A TAT TAT (all together)

Repetition works well here too.

They had lots and lots of fun together. After some time Harry stopped the band and said, "You know, I think there is still something missing. I think we need a fourth band member and I think I know just who"

"Who?" said the other hedgehogs.

"Billy!" said Harry

"Oh no" said the other hedgehogs. "Not Billy. He is so lazy"

"He'll be fine. Don't worry so much" said Harry.

The hedgehogs set off across the wood to find Billy. Billy was fast asleep under the big Oak tree.

Here you can set up the next part. In the final telling the children play Billy and you drum to try and wake them up but this needs explanation and practice. Let them know they will be pretending to sleep and that TUM TUM TEE TUM doesn't wake them nor does DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM but RAT A TAT TAT does the job. Practice a few times in the sessions. Focus on how Billy wakes up before he shouts 'what's that noise?' Stretch, yawn, rub eyes.

Harry and the hedgehogs played TUM TUM TEE TUM but Billy did not wake up. Then they played DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM but still Billy did not wake. Finally and as loud as they could they all played RAT A TAT TAT. Billy woke up, stretched, rubbed his eyes, yawned and shouted 'What's that noise?'

"It's us" said Harry, " and we are sorry to wake you Billy but we are putting a drumming band together and we want you to be in it"

"A drumming band," said Billy, "that sounds amazing. I've always wanted to be in a drumming band...but there's just one problem."

"What's that?" said Harry

"I don't have a drum" said Billy.

"Oh that's no problem" said Harry "I can make you one"

"Really" said Billy "How do you do that then?"

"Well I get some" (knock shell...WOOD)(pull string...STRING) (rub hands on....SKIN) and I make a drum" said Harry. Billy thought this was amazing. "Can you make one for me" he asked

"Of course" said Harry " just fetch me the materials"

Billy fetched the materials, gave them to Harry and he made him a drum

Billy hugged the drum close to him and said "Oh Harry...it's so beautiful. I love it. You are my best friend. Can I play TUM TUM TEE TUM with you now?"

"No" said Harry (At this point the children will be saying 'No' and can tell you why)

"Oh!" said Billy "That's a bit odd" and he turned to Helen and asked,

"Can I play DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM with you please"

Helen looked at Harry who shook his head. "No" said Helen.

Billy looked sad. Then he turned to Norbert and asked " Can I play RAT-A-TAT-TAT with you? Norbert shook his head.

"Why not?" asked a tearful Billy.

"These are our own rhythms" said Harry "You have to make up your own"

"How do I do that then" asked Billy.

"Think about it" said Harry

So Billy thought and he thought and thought and thought and then began to snore. (Here we usually break off to develop this theme and the children are asked to remember which rhythm wakes Billy. This can be repeated ad nauseum)

Eventually Billy finds a rhythm in his sleep dreams. "I've got one" he shouts. "You'll love it. It's not TUM TUM TEE TUM, it's not DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM and it's not RAT A TAT TAT. It's the best rhythm in the world.

And..... Billy.....played.....BOOM!

(If the children get the BOOM together I do a little jump off my chair. It adds fun and laughter and encourages group timing.)

Harry, Helen and Norbert loved it. "Let's all play together" said Harry

So they did.

Now here you have options.

A sequence:

TUM TUM TEE TUM, DIDDLE DIDDLE DUM, RAT A TAT TAT, BOOM

Or equal groups of Hedgehogs (Harry, Helen, Norbert, Billy)

Hold the beat for them and have all play together at the same time. Either of these can be the perfect finale but there is another element to the story if you want it.

Soon the whole wood was humming (fingers) and tumming (soft hands) with the sound of drumming (loud play).

STOP! (Practice the group stop using a strong visual arm signal...hands up together, hands down together)

TUM went the band and they stopped. All the other woodland animals had gathered at the sound of the drumming. "We want to play too" they said "but we don't have any drums" Harry explains that he can't make anymore that day because they have no more wood....string...or skin.

Harry however is an expert in noise so he suggests the animals use their own sounds to join in with the drumming.

(Here there are examples in the film of linking animal sounds, movement to the Hedgehog rhythms but you can use your own and this can be a plenary session on its own to look at woodland creatures, sounds, movement etc. Once the animal sounds are agreed the children can be a drummer, an animal or both in the finale)

HAVE FUN!!

Note: My first encounter with this story was as a book I read to my young children at home. I have developed the theme contained in Martin Waddell's lovely publication which you can find online to buy.

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