

# Our Autumn Song

## Teacher's Notes

FunSongs action songs should be taught through suggestion, mime and movement - never from the printed page. Learn "Our Autumn Song" and its teaching actions before you present and teach it to your class. As well as the Teaching Actions pictures, view the video at : [Buy the package to see the full video.](#)

### Focus Minds on the Song Concepts

In L1 (your children's native language) ask your class what the word "autumn" means to them. Discuss its associations: temperature, light, colours, back to school after the summer and so on. They are going to learn about an English autumn with a new song called 'Our Autumn Song'. Tell them the song contains trees, leaves, a strong wind, school, homework and chestnuts. Put on the guide voice mp3 (adult or child versions) and accompany the words with some of the teaching actions.

### Teach Our Autumn Song

1. Teach the song line by line through the actions. During this phase, avoid the use of L1 as much as possible. **Do not** show the class the words of the song!
2. Build up your children's knowledge of the song gradually in simple steps.
3. When you are ready, ask the class to stand and perform the song.
4. Now try it with the kids' version.

### WORKING ON THE SONG

#### Reading practice

Once your class has learned the song, photocopy and distribute the words sheet. Play through the song as everyone follows the written text. Next, play the karaoke version through with everybody reading and singing. This activity will also help to teach spelling of the new words.

#### Using mime

When your class has learned the song and its actions, invite someone to come up to the front and do two or three of the actions in the song without singing. The rest of the class says the line or words associated with the actions. This can also be done in pairs.

#### Using the Worksheets

Use the Worksheets to recycle and practise the words and themes of the song in a variety of contexts. The Worksheets are graded; Worksheet 1 is the easiest, appropriate for the youngest learners. You may also set some of them for homework.

## Graded Worksheets

### Worksheet 1 – The four seasons

A labelling and colouring activity for the youngest learners. It highlights the cyclical nature of the four seasons and the changes in the appearance of plants and trees.

### Worksheet 2 – Autumn Food

A vocabulary and spelling task to learn some typical foods generally associated with autumn.

### Worksheet 3 – Homework time

This is a reference to the nine times table in the song. Use this exercise to teach the terms "times," "equals" and "divided by". Luke makes three mistakes (7x8, 9x3, 48/6) and Julie two (6x3, 81/9) so Julie is the best.

### Worksheet 4 – It's cold outside

This matching task about colder autumn temperatures practises the imperative form. Ask your students to pair up and act out the conversations. They can then colour the pictures.

### Worksheet 5 –Autumn wind and rain

The picture illustrates some aspects of a typical autumn day in England referred to in the song. Complete the sentences to reinforce understanding of the present continuous tense.

### Worksheet 6 – Chestnut chocolate recipe

This recipe really works and is delicious! Although the language contains some difficult words, your children will be curious to complete the task.

1. Put the peeled chestnuts in boiling water for one minute, then drain.
2. When the chestnuts are well drained, slowly cook them in hot, boiling milk.
3. When the milk has been absorbed, mash the chestnuts in a food mixer to get a smooth puree.
4. Mix the sugar into the puree and leave the mixture to cool.
5. Whip the butter into the cooled chestnut puree for at least five minutes.
6. Melt the chocolate in a pot and then mix it with the puree.
7. Pour the chocolate and chestnut mixture into a buttered mould.
8. Put the mould into the fridge for twelve hours then dip it in hot water to free the dessert from the mould.

### Worksheet 7 – Fill in the gaps

Use this simple cloze test to reinforce vocabulary learning and spelling. Good for homework.

### Autumn poster

Make a class poster associated with autumn. This could contain:

- The words of the song and the teaching actions
- "Autumn objects" collected or drawn by the class: leaves, chestnuts, autumn landscapes, a photo of the school, a graph showing the decline in temperature since August, etc.