

ENFIELD MUSIC SERVICE

SUMMER SOUNDS 2020

Welcome to the Summer Sounds 2020 Singing Festival!

Over the course of April and May we're sending out the resources to learn four songs.

Each set of resources includes:

- Performance example track
- Backing track
- Song lyrics
- Suggestions and extra activities to help you learn the song

The four songs are:

- *Today* (Traditional warm up round)
- *New Dawn* (Ballad by Rachel Pantin)
- *Drill ye Tarriers Drill* (American Folk song by Thomas F. Casey)
- *Babethandazo* (Traditional South African song in Zulu)

Today we're launching our third song, Drill ye Tarriers Drill. You can download the resources for the first song, Today, [here](#) and for the second song, New Dawn, [here](#)

Follow us on social media and keep an eye out for #SummerSoundsEMS for updates on the festival and other news from Enfield Music Service.

We hope you enjoy sharing in our Summer Sounds 2020 singing festival!



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DRILL YE TARRIERS DRILL

This is an American folk song, first published in 1888 and is based on the time of the construction of the American railroads in the mid-19th century. Many folk songs tell stories about real people and events. They are often about workers who worked tirelessly for mean bosses in poor conditions for very little pay. *Tarriers* refers to the workers, drilling holes in rock to blast out the new railroad tunnels.

Backing track downloads

[Performance example track](#)

[Backing track](#)

Lyrics

Every morning at seven o'clock
There are twenty tarriers drilling at the rock
And the boss comes 'round and says:
"Keep still, come down heavy on the cast iron drill"



*And drill ye tarriers drill
Drill ye tarriers drill
Well you work all day for the sugar in your tay
Down behind the railway
And drill, ye tarriers drill. And Blast! And Fire!*

Now our foreman was Gene McCann
By golly he was a really mean man
Last week an early blast went off
And a mile in the air went Big Jim Goff

*And drill ye tarriers drill
Drill ye tarriers drill
Well you work all day for the sugar in your tay
Down behind the railway
And drill, ye tarriers drill. And Blast! And Fire!*

Next time payday comes around,
Jim Goff a dollar short was found
When asked what for, got this reply:
"You were docked for the time you were up in the sky"

*And drill ye tarriers drill
Drill ye tarriers drill
Well you work all day for the sugar in your tay
Down behind the railway
And drill, ye tarriers drill. And Blast! And Fire!*



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Starting out

- In this song, remember you are telling a story. Think about how stories can be exaggerated and changed in the playground as they go from one person to another.
- Can you think of a time you told up a tale and added a little bit extra just for fun?
- How do you use your face and body when telling up a tale? Shake out your hands, wrists, elbows, upper body, hips, legs and feet, so that your whole body feels floppy then do a silly, wobbly dance!
- Have a good stretch and a yawn
- Relax and loosen your jaw with some exaggerated laughing and crying.
- Tongue twisters are good for singing clearly. Try *'Eleven lemon lollipops'*, *'Ten tiny tottering turtles'* and *'Fluffy, floppy puppy'*. How fast and clearly can you say them?!

Learning the song

- Listen to the track first and follow the lyrics. Think about how the story unfolds.
- How is the event in the song exaggerated?
- Read the lyrics out loud
 - Firstly, read the lyrics with no expression
 - Read them again, this time using your hands, eyes and face to exaggerate the words.
- Put the words in your thinking voice and mime along as you listen again.
- Build up slowly: start by singing along with just the chorus each time.
- When you are feeling confident and ready, join in the whole song and finally challenge yourself to sing along using the backing track.
- Make sure the words are clear and precise and you are pronouncing all your consonants clearly (b, d, k, t etc)

Try this next

- Pick a line from the song and mime the words. Ask someone in your family to watch - can they tell which line you are miming?
- Teach someone at home the chorus so they join in with you as you sing.
- Folk songs were often changed or added to as they were passed from one generation to the next.
- If you research this song, you will find many different versions.
- One example is by Trip McCool which gives you a good illustration of the times:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J9dOrghwDE0>
- Can you think of any other folk songs you might have sung at school which tell a story?



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