

LEARNING ACTIVITIES: ©Gaye Adegbalola

SONG #7 ~~ GRANDMA & GRANDPA'S HOUSE

FLAVOR: PIEDMONT BLUES

- Draw a family tree. Find photos to glue along with the drawings on the tree. Here is how to make one:

<http://video.about.com/genealogy/How-to-Make-a-Simple-Family-Tree-With-Kids.htm>

- Ask a grandparent or any older person to tell you a story about some event when he or she was younger. Record the story using a tape recorder or a video recorder. Or ask him/her to teach you a song from when he or she was younger.

- Name 10 ways you can help Grandma or Grandpa around the house.

- Make a list of all the things your Grandma and/or Grandpa likes to do. Find words that rhyme for some of the items on the list. Use them to create a poem or card or song for the grandparent. For example, my Grandpa likes to **cook** and then we read a **book** or he took the phone off the **hook** or at TV we will **look**. Or maybe Grandma listens to the **news** and then she sings the **blues** or she bought a new pair of **shoes** or she has paid her **dues** or put medicine on my **bruise**. This can be fun to do, but sometimes, when it is difficult, use a rhyming dictionary (be sure to change "Find definition to Find rhyme") :<http://www.rhymezone.com/r/rhyme.cgi>

- There are 3 types of instruments:

- 1) percussion = instruments that you hit or strike to produce a sound
- 2) wind = instruments that you blow into to make a sound
- 3) string = instruments that have strings that you pluck, bow or strum to produce a sound.

This song has all three kinds of instruments. The spoons are hit to make a sound; the harmonica is blown into; and the guitar is plucked. See if you can name 5 other instruments in each category.

- Beginners lesson for playing spoons --

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8H2J1nMUI18&feature=related>

(Note: I cheated by using "rhythm spoons" which are spoons that are attached at the handle with a space in between the two-- you don't have to worry with holding one spoon steady. Also, mine are wooden which make for a different sound.) If you learn to play the real spoons, you will always have an instrument handy to join in making music at any time.

- A better, longer lesson by David Holt with close-ups of the hands --

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5e0TVUC_ko&feature=related

- Learn to play the harmonica. This is a lesson by Rebecca Wenger. She gives the lesson without saying a single word. She teaches rhythm, how to hold the harmonica, how to suck and blow, how to isolate holes, etc

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7FEafi_NYOc

(Note: my harmonica playing is not great, but adds a little "texture" to the song and. . . I enjoy it! For me, enjoyment is the main reason for making music. Also, I used a harmonica in the Key of C on this CD if you want to play along.)

SPECIAL LINKS:

- **PHIL WIGGINS IN THE STUDIO -- Gaye's favorite harmonica player**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qlf577laD3Y>

- **THE AMAZING SCOTTY BROTHERS PLAYING SPOONS**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6TS9ugnarQQ>

SPECIAL VOCABULARY WORD: GENEALOGY

Genealogy is a record of or the study of one's family history or group.