

When He Comes Again Rhythm Sticks

How to Play:

1. At the beginning of primary, review the first verse of When He Comes Again as a primary.
2. Then, pass out rhythm sticks to each class and have them follow you as you demonstrate a simple rhythm with the rhythm sticks.
3. Demonstrate each of the 4 rhythm stick patterns and have the kids practice the patterns before you start singing.
4. You might choose to write the lyrics on the board and write the designated stick pattern above each phrase. If not, run through the song with all the stick patterns in order.
5. Then, add in the music! Try singing When He Comes Again while using the rhythm sticks patterns.
6. Continue practicing the song and have some fun with the rhythm sticks!

Extension Activities:

- Have the kids come up with their own fun rhythm stick patterns! Put the kids into teams and have them come up with their own pattern and sing through the song together.
- Print out the rhythm stick pattern cards and put them up randomly on the board. Have the children choose 3-4 cards to use and try out the patterns while you sing!
- Have the kids choose a partner and have each partner hold one of the rhythm sticks. Have each team work together to create the patterns using their sticks. For example, when you do the steady taps, have them tap their rhythm sticks together.

When He Comes Again Rhythm Sticks Patterns

Here are 4 different patterns to use as you review *When He Comes Again*. Each pattern is available as part of the 30-card set of Rhythm Sticks Pattern Cards in our digital shop. You can purchase a set of these cards or draw the pattern on the board as you demonstrate the rhythm sticks pattern.

- 1. Steady Rub:** For this pattern, rub one of the rhythm sticks against the other to create a steady sound. Use this pattern for the two phrases of the song. “I wonder when he comes again, will herald angels sing? Will earth be white with drifted snow, or will the world know spring?”
- 2. Steady Tap:** Tap the rhythm sticks together on each syllable of the phrases “I wonder if one star will shine far brighter than the rest?” Use the steady tap later in the song when you sing “Because He said in days gone by,”
- 3. Tap Knee:** Tap both rhythm sticks on your knees to the rhythm of the phrase “Will daylight stay the whole night through, will songbirds leave their nests” and in the phrase “Suffer them to come to me.”
- 4. Fast Rub:** This pattern is similar to the steady rub, but a little faster. Rub the sticks together quickly while you sing “I’m sure he’ll call his little ones to gather ‘round his knee.”



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