

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FC 7576

# WE ALL HAVE A SONG

ACTIVITY AND BED-TIME SONGS WITH

# GINNI CLEMMENS



M  
1997  
C626  
W362  
1977

MUSIC LP

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FC 7576

**SIDE ONE Activity Side**

1. We All Have A Song, (2:18) Ginni Clemmens, (ASCAP)
2. (We Have) The Working Tools (In our Hands) (2:20)  
Lincoln School, Grade 3 and Ginni Clemmens
3. Bark, Duffy! ( :26) Jeffrey Atkinson
4. Crazy Mixed-up Song, (3:19) Gerri Anne Garber
5. K-Katy, (2:57) Traditional
6. Sneaky Snake, (1:55) Tom T. Hall, (BMI)
7. Duffy Barks, ( :16) Jeffrey Atkinson and Duffy
8. The Living Room Song, (3:57) Ginni Clemmens, (ASCAP)

**SIDE TWO Bed-Time Side**

1. Scared Little Person, (3:39) Casse Culver
2. Aren't You Proud of Your Plants? (3:38)  
Ginni Clemmens, (ASCAP)
3. Banjo Medley (2:34) Traditional
4. Blackbird (1:54) George Harrison, (BMI)
5. I Care, (1:46) Tom T. Hall, (BMI)
6. Best Friend (The Unicorn Song), (4:22)  
Margie Adam, (ASCAP)

All songs arranged by Ginni Clemmens.

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**WE ALL HAVE A SONG**  
ACTIVITY AND BED-TIME SONGS WITH  
**GINNI CLEMMENS**

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ARE INSIDE POCKET

COVER DESIGN BY RONALD CLYNE

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FC 7576

FOLKWAYS RECORDS Album No. FC 7576

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# WE ALL HAVE A SONG

ACTIVITY AND  
BED-TIME SONGS

WITH **GINNI  
CLEMMENS**



Gerri-Ann Garber

## INTRODUCTION

The children who sing together on this album all live in my neighborhood or are friends of mine from other parts of Chicago. That makes a big difference to me—that I can work with *friends* on a shared project.

We recorded most of it in my living room, so the atmosphere was warm and comfortable. You hear us making music, inventing verses, playing with sound *naturally*, having fun all along the way.

If the spirit of the song came through, we left in any goofs and whoops'es. That's the excitement for me, finding magic moments in the everyday experiences we have with music.

I hope this record sounds like *real* people, visiting you at home.

## DEDICATION

This record is lovingly dedicated to Win Stracke who taught me the most important thing in my singing career: keep the house lights up. For me that means I can show I value the people I'm singing for.

Win founded the Old Town School of Folk Music in Chicago and is known to many children in Chicago as "Uncle Win".

## IMPORTANT!

### HOW TO USE THIS RECORD

#### Side One:

This is the music-making side. You can write your own verses to most of these songs. Listen and sing along to get the idea. Then go ahead and make your own music!

#### Side Two:

Get someone to tuck you in and just listen until you fall asleep. This is the dreaming side.

You can daydream, too. When a class at the Greeley School in Chicago heard "Best Friend" (The Unicorn Song), they did some daydreaming in school and came up with stories and pictures.

### LIST OF SINGERS ACCOMPANYING GINNI (in alphabetical order):

Angie, Billy, Chris, Chuck, Cindy, Debbie, Diana, Erica, Jeffrey, Jerry-John, Kim E., Kim M., Lisa, Missy, Molly, Nina, Noah, Patrick, Ralph, Sean, Tim, Tony, and Vida.

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The acid test of a children's record, as we've suggested before, is whether you can stand to hear it played in the next room twenty-four times in a single morning. One of those that come out true blue is Folkways' "Sing a Rainbow," sung by Ginni Clemmens, who has a clear, strong, easygoing voice.

*New Yorker*

Ginni Clemmens definitely keeps the house lights on! Her personal warmth fused to her giftedness makes this more than a delightful album; it is an endearing one.... Not only children but grown-ups as well will enjoy this one.

*Studs Terkel*

Ginni's ability to reach young audiences is wonderful to see. She tries not to leave a group of children without learning something from them—hambone rhythms, a jumping-rope song. She shares as well as performs, and children love to share.

*Urban Gateways,*  
a Chicago-based  
arts/education agency

#### Thanks

To my sister Maxine who helped organize my living room full of children.

To Duffy who tried hard to come in on time.

To Mel Zelman, the voice of the stereo.

To all the children who sang on this record.

To Rich Warren who recorded everything except "Working Tools". He would have recorded this one too, especially since it happened at his old school, but he graduated a long time ago and was stuck in the Loop at his job the day we wrote and recorded this song.

To WFMT—AM/FM Chicago Fine Arts Radio Station for the use of their facilities.

To Pam Chamberlain who helped me pull the parts into a whole.

To Folkways who put the whole into a package.

#### INTRODUCTIONS & INSTRUCTIONS

##### SIDE ONE

###### 1. We All Have a Song

This is the first song I ever wrote. I hope it inspires you to write some of your own!

###### 2. Working Tools (tune: He's Got The Whole World In His Hands)

This is a good song to use anywhere. It was written in a classroom, but you include whatever you see around you. A group of 3- and 4-year-old children in Cambridge, Mass. sing this as, "We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands".

###### 3. Crazy Mixed-up Song

Sometimes it's hard to come up with really new ideas. Then you can try to take a thing and turn it upside down and backwards. Nonsense helps shake things loose in your head.

###### 4. K-Katy

Another way to shake thoughts loose is just to play with sound, not to mention that this is a fun song to give everyone some attention!

###### 5. Sneaky Snake

This is a favorite song of many children I know.

###### 6. The Living Room Song

This song was recorded in my own living room. Another good title for this song is "The All-Purpose Environment Song." I have sung it in coffeehouses, cars, restaurants, and often at home. Look around you and see how many things make sound! John Cage, a composer, says, "Everything is music." He has used trash cans and other everyday objects with an orchestra.

#### SIDE TWO

###### 1. Scared Little Person

It's OK to let other people know what frightens you. That way you may find you are not alone. Sometimes people share their fears by writing a song about them, and that's what my friend Casse Culver did here.

###### 2. Aren't You Proud of Your Plants?

I wrote this for a friend while she was watering her plants one day. It started out being a nonsense song. Anything that came to mind went into the verses. But in the end you can see it turned out to be mostly a plant song.

###### 3. Banjo Medley

A happy banjo tune is one of the best lullabies I know. It gives you sweet dreams.

###### 4. Blackbird

One of my favorite parts on this whole record is the whistle and tweet section of this song.

###### 5. I Care

(No intro)

###### 6. Best Friend

This song fits well on both sides of the album. Part of it belongs on side one, where it says the things you make up all by yourself are important. Another part fits in well with side two, because it has to do with believing in yourself, and that's a good thought to hold in your head while you go to sleep.

#### SIDE ONE

##### band one: We All Have a Song

Intro: You know that we all have a song  
Inside of us  
And you have one too  
Yes, everyone does!

Verse 1: And this is my song  
I always have sung  
A song of my own  
A copy of none  
A beautiful dream  
I always have known  
A song that's been  
A song that's been born

Chorus: La la la la la  
la la la la la  
la la la la la  
la la la la la, etc.

Verse 2: Hold on to your dreams  
Whatever you do  
Your dreams can be sung  
Whenever you're blue  
With love in your heart  
You'll live with your song  
A song you can find  
To sing all day long

Chorus: La la la la, etc.

Verse 3: And now I will go  
And leave you alone  
To find your *own* song  
A song of your own

Chorus: La la la la la, etc.

### SIDE ONE

Special note: Written and recorded all in one day by a  
3rd grade class at Lincoln School, Evanston, Ill.

**band two:** (We've Got the) Working Tools (in our Hands)

Verse 1: We've got the working tools in our hands  
We've got the working tools in our hands  
We've got the working tools in our hands  
We've got the working tools in our hands!

Verse 2: We've got the pencils and the paper in our hands  
(repeat twice)  
We've got the working tools in our hands!

Verse 3: We've got the chalk and erasers in our hands  
(repeat twice)  
We've got the working tools in our hands!

Verse 4: We've got the school supply box in our hands  
(repeat twice)  
We've got the working tools in our hands!

Verse 5: We've got the glue and rulers in our hands  
(repeat twice)  
We've got the working tools in our hands!

Verse 6: We've got the pens and the crayons in our hands  
(repeat twice)  
We got the working tools in our hands!

Verse 7: We've got the scissors and the paint in our hands  
(repeat twice)  
We've got the working tools in our hands!

Verse 8: We've got the brains and the books in our hands  
(repeat twice)  
We've got the working tools in our hands!

Verse 9: Repeat first verse.

### SIDE ONE

**band three:** Bark, Duffy!

**band four:** Crazy Mixed Up Song

1. Oh, I had a dog  
Oh, What a dog  
It goes, "Meouww!"  
(repeat whole verse)

2. Oh, I had a duck  
What rotten luck  
It goes, "Oink, oink!"  
(repeat)

3. Now, I had a cow  
Oh, what a cow  
It goes, "Tweet, tweet!"  
(repeat)

4. I had a frog  
Oh, what a frog  
It goes, "Rrrraaoww!"  
(repeat)

5. I had a cat  
Oh, what a cat  
It goes, "Aaarroouu!"  
(repeat)

6. I had a frog  
Oh, what a frog  
It goes, "Gggrrrr!"  
(repeat)

7. Now I had a hamburger, A hamburger?!  
Oh, what a hamburger  
It goes, "Hot dog!"  
(repeat)

**band five:** K-Katy

1. K-k-k-katy  
Beautiful Katy  
You're the only wa-wa-wa one  
That I adore!

2. G-g-g-Ginni  
Beautiful Ginni  
(repeat last 2 lines of first verse)

3. J-J-J-Jeffrey  
Beautiful Jeffrey  
(repeat)

4. N-N-N-Nina  
Beautiful Nina  
(repeat)

5. V-V-V-Vida  
Beautiful Vida  
(repeat)

6. D-D-D-Debbie  
Beautiful Debbie  
(repeat)

7. K-K-K-Kimmy  
Beautiful Kimmy  
(repeat)

8. P-P-P-Patrick  
Beautiful Patrick  
(repeat)

9. S-S-S-Sean  
Beautiful Sean  
(repeat)

/&. D-D-D-Duffy  
Beautiful Duffy  
(repeat)



Pam Chamberlain

**band six: Sneaky Snake**

Verse 1: Boys and girls take warning  
 When you go near the lake  
 Keep your eyes wide open  
 And look for Sneaky Snake!  
 Now maybe you won't see him  
 And maybe you won't hear  
 But he'll sneak up behind you  
 And drink all your root beer!

Chorus: And then Sneaky Snake goes dancing  
 Wiggling and-a-hissing  
 Sneaky goes dancing  
 Giggling and-a-kissing  
 I don't like ole Sneaky Snake  
 He laughs too much you see  
 When he goes a-wiggling through the grass  
 It tickles his underneeeeeth

Verse 2: Now Sneaky Snake drinks root beer  
 And he just makes me sick  
 When he is not dancing  
 He looks just like a stick  
 He doesn't have any arms or legs  
 You cannot see his ears  
 And when we are not looking  
 He drinks all our root beer!

Chorus: Sneaky Snake goes dancing, etc.

**band seven: The Living Room Song**

Verse 1. Now I had a living room  
 My living room pleased me  
 I fed my living room  
 On sassafras tea

Chorus: My little living room went,  
 D da da da da  
 Da da da da da da da  
 Da da da da.

Verse 2: Now I had a stereo  
 My stereo pleased me  
 I fed my stereo  
 On sassafras tea

Chorus: My little stereo went,  
 (Stereo sounds)  
 And my little living room went,  
 Da da da da da, etc.

Verse 3: Now I had a clock  
 And my clock pleased me  
 I fed my clock  
 On sassafras tea

Chorus: My little clock went,  
 (clock rings)  
 And my little stereo went,  
 (stereo sounds)  
 And my little living room went,  
 La da da da da, etc.

Verse 4: I had a lamp  
And my lamp pleased me  
I fed my lamp  
On sassafras tea

Chorus: My little lamp went,  
(lamp clicks)  
And my little lamp went, etc.

Verse 5: I had a wall  
And my wall pleased me  
I fed my wall  
On sassafras tea

Chorus: My little wall went,  
(wall sounds)  
My little lamp went, etc.

Verse 6: Now I had a TV  
My TV pleased me  
I fed my TV  
On sassafras tea

Chorus: My little TV went  
(TV sounds)  
My little wall went etc.

Verse 7: I had a door  
And my door pleased me  
I fed my door  
On sassafras tea

Chorus: My little door went  
(door slams)  
And my little TV went etc.

## SIDE TWO

### band one: Scared Little Person

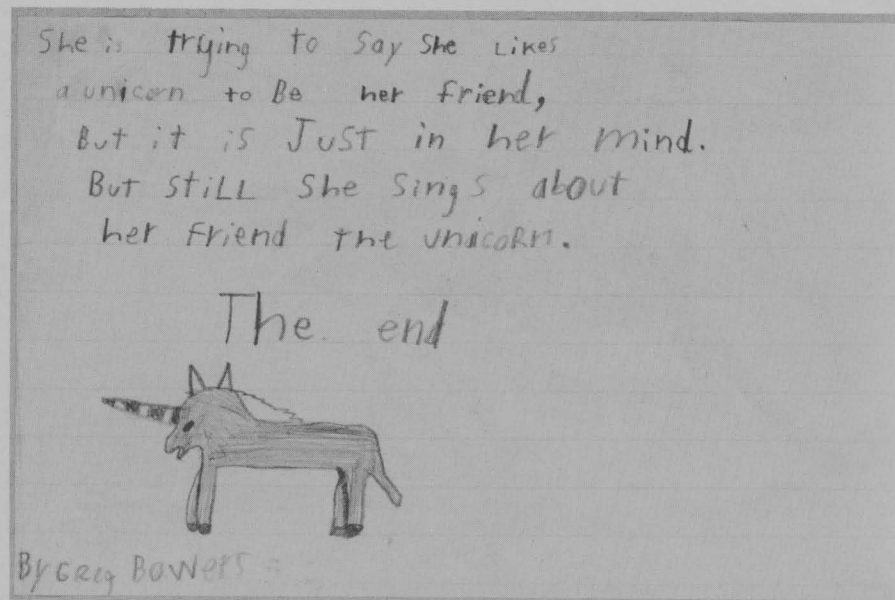
Verse 1: Cracks in the ceiling  
And lumps in the walls  
Sometimes at night  
They seem ten feet tall  
They turn into horrible shapes at night  
So I'm begging you  
Please don't touch that light.

Chorus: So please, I'm a grown-up person outside  
But please, I'm a scared little person inside  
So, please, you'd be messing with my sanity  
Please, please, please,  
Don't cut out the light on me.

Verse 2: Oh, I can remember  
When I was a child  
I had such bad nightmares  
That they drove me wild  
With visions come a-dancing  
Through the heat and the gloom  
As I lay lost  
In my pitch dark bedroom.

Chorus: So, please, I'm a grown-up person outside, etc.

Verse 3: Been scared of the dark since  
Since I was just two  
I never told no one  
Now I'm telling you  
But I bet you could help me  
If you really cared  
By letting me know  
When you're also scared.



Chorus: So please, I'm a grown-up person outside, etc.

Verse 4: So I sit and I shiver  
And I wait for dawn  
With my eyes wide open  
And every light on  
But I can ask you to hold me  
'Til my fears get gone  
And I fall asleep  
Like a babe in your arms.

Chorus: So please, I'm a grown-up person outside  
Yes, it's me and I'm a scared little person inside  
But you see, no one's messing with my sanity  
'Cuz I'm free, free, free  
To turn on the light inside me!

### band two: Aren't You Proud of Your Plants?

Verse 1: Aren't you proud of your plants  
When they get up and dance  
And they tell you your life is OK?  
Aren't you proud of your dog  
When he rolls on a log  
Of newspapers he brought in today?

Chorus: Ooo-ooh...  
Aren't you proud of that bird in your cage?  
Ooo-ooh,  
Aren't you proud of that steak on your plate?

Verse 2: How they giggle and laugh  
When you give them a bath  
They just think it's the funniest thing  
And turn the radio on  
And they'll dance right along  
They're just wild about music that swings.

Chorus: Ooo-ooh,  
Aren't you glad to be with your friends?  
Ooo-ooh,  
It's so nice to be with your friends!  
Doo doo doo doo etc



Verse 3: When you dust off their leaves  
You can hear them all breathe  
As they take a big sigh of relief

Chorus: Aaaa-aah,  
Aren't you glad to be with your friends?  
Aaa-aah,  
It's so nice to be with your friends.

Verse 4: Aren't you proud of your plants?, etc.  
(repeat first verse)

**band three:** Animal Medley: Old Molly Hare,  
Kickin' Mule, and  
Bound for the Mountain

Verse 1: Old Molly hare  
Whatcha doin' there?  
Runnin' through the cabbage patch  
As fast as I can tear.

Chorus: Ducks say, "Quack!"  
Cows say, "Moo!"  
Ain't got time for to spend with you!  
"Quack!" "M!"

Verse 2: Old Molly hare  
Whatcha doin' now?  
Sittin' on the fireplace  
A-smokin' my cigar.

Chorus: Ducks say, "Quack!" etc.  
"Quack!" "Moo!"

Verse 1: Whoa, there mule, I tell you,  
Miss Liza you keep cool  
I ain't got time to kiss you now  
I'm busy with my mule!

Verse 2: My uncle had an old gray mule  
His name was Simon Slick  
Anything I ever did know  
Was how that mule could kick.

Verse 3: Went to feed that mule one morning  
He greeted me with a smile  
Flapped one ear and winked one eye  
And he kicked me half a mile!

Verse 4: Whoa, there, mule, I tell you, etc.  
(repeat first verse)  
"Heee-haaaw!"

"Ow, ow, ow ow owooo!"

Rover, Rover, see 'em, see 'em,  
Rover, Rover, catch 'em, catch 'em,  
Way, hey, bound for the mountain  
Bound for the hills away.

**band four:** Blackbird

Verse 1: Blackbird singing in the dead of night  
Take these broken wings  
And learn to fly  
All your life  
You were only waiting  
For this moment to arise.

Verse 2: Blackbird singing in the dead of night  
Take these sunken eyes  
And learn to see  
All your life  
You were only waiting  
For this moment to be free.

Chorus: Blackbird, fly!  
Blackbird, fly  
Into the light of the dark, black night.  
(bird sounds)

Verse 1: Blackbird singing in the dead of night, etc.  
(repeat first verse)  
(more bird sounds)

Once there was a little girl named Kim.  
She liked the unicorn because it is a friend.  
The unicorn had brown spots with a yellow chest  
and red squares and one pink star. One day there  
was a tornado and the spots came off.

JIMMY REYES

Unicorn

one day I went to the woods  
and I saw a unicorn I asked him how  
come you have a horn on your head?  
Because that's how I'm supposed to look.  
If they took it off I would not  
look like a unicorn. That's why.

By Eduardo



**band five: I Care**

Verse 1: When the TV won't work  
And your toys fall apart  
And you have a sad feeling  
Deep in your heart  
You want to go out  
But it's raining out there  
I want you to know  
I care.

Chorus: I care  
I do  
There's no one like you  
When they take you someplace  
And you have to sit in a chair  
I just want you to know  
I care.

Verse 2: When you tell a big lie  
And your parents are mean  
When being grown-up  
Is a faraway dream  
When they're filling your teeth  
And cutting your hair  
I just want you to know  
I care.

Chorus: I care  
I do  
There's no one like you  
And I mention your name  
When I'm saying my prayers  
I want you to know  
I care

Verse 3: When you have a big cold  
And you can't go out  
When you sit for a week  
With that stick in your mouth  
When you sleep in the dark  
And there's something out there  
I want you to know  
I care.

Chorus: I care  
I do  
There's no one like you  
And I mention your name  
When I'm saying my prayers  
I want you to know  
I care

Verse 3: When you have a big cold  
And you can't go out  
When you sit for a week  
With that stick in your mouth  
When you sleep in the dark  
And there's something out there  
I want you to know  
I care.

Chorus: I care  
I do  
There's no one like you  
And if sometimes I act like a grouchy old bear  
I just want you to know I care.

Special note: Singers were Augie, Chris, Erica, Vida,  
& Ginni

**band six: Best Friend (Unicorn Song)**

Verse 1: When I was growing up  
My best friend was the unicorn  
The others smiled at me  
And called me crazy  
But I was not upset  
By knowing I did not conform  
I always knew their seeing must be  
Hazy  
The unicorn and I  
Would while away the hours  
Playing, dancing, and romancing  
Through the wild flowers  
And we'd sing:

Chorus: Seeing is believing  
In the things you see  
And loving is believing  
In the ones you love.  
(repeat)

Verse 2: When I was seventeen  
My best friend was the Northern Star  
The others asked why was I  
Always dreaming  
But I was not upset  
Because my thoughts were very far away  
From daily hurts and fears and  
Scheming.  
The Northern Star and I  
Would share our dreams together  
Laughing, sighing, sometimes crying  
Through all kinds of weather.  
And we'd sing:

Chorus: Seeing is believing, etc.

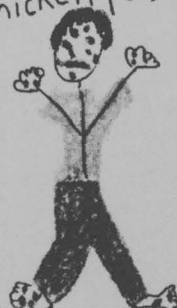
Verse 3: And now that I am grown  
My best friend lives inside of me  
The others smile at me  
And call me crazy  
But I am not upset  
For long ago I found the key  
I always knew their seeing must be  
Hazy  
My friend inside and I  
Will while away the hours  
Playing, dancing, and romancing  
Through the wild flowers

Chorus: And we'll sing:  
Seeing is believing, etc.

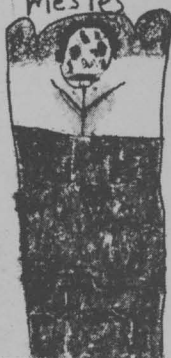
# Not Enuf Medicines

There is not enuf Medicines.  
Like for Chickien pox, But  
espeshly for Lucemea what I  
got.

Chickien poxs



mesles



Coaghf



Lucemea



Jeffrey P.S.  
atkinson's friend  
age 7 died from  
Lucemea  
Please Help