

WOODY GUTHRIE

*Nursery
Days*



woody guthrie

WOODY GUTHRIE

Nursery Days

1. **Wake Up*** 3:08
2. **Clean-o*** 2:58
3. **Dance Around*** 2:13
4. **Riding in My Car (Car Song)*** 1:49
5. **Don't You Push Me Down*** 2:25
6. **My Dolly*** 2:48
7. **Put Your Finger in the Air*** 2:53
8. **Come See** 2:14
9. **Race You down the Mountain** 2:25
(Marjorie Mazia - Woody Guthrie)
10. **Howdido** 1:42
11. **Merry-go-round** 1:54
12. **Sleep Eye*** 1:46
13. **My Yellow Crayon** 3:28
14. **Roll On** 2:48
15. **Jiggy Jiggy Bum** 3:38
(Woody Guthrie Publications, BMI)
16. **Bubble Gum** 2:14

All songs written, composed, and performed by Woody Guthrie. All songs published by TRO-Ludlow Music, INC. BMI except for those marked with an asterisk, which are TRO-Folkways Music Publishers Inc. BMI, or as otherwise noted

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Originally issued as Folkways FC 7675 (1951) and side 2 of Folkways FC7016 (1985).

Lyrics and notes by Woody Guthrie enclosed.

Reissue produced by Anthony Seeger and Matt Walters.

Remastered by Joe Gastwirt at Ocean View Digital, Manhattan Beach, CA.



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In the 1990s, many people know of Woody Guthrie through his songs for adults. He was the composer of "This Land Is Your Land" as well as many moving songs that document the events he witnessed and the struggles he participated in during his lifetime. Yet Woody Guthrie was also a wonderful writer and performer of songs for children. Filled with whimsy and enthusiasm, dealing with events in the lives of young children, they are as much fun to sing today as the day they were written. This recording contains sixteen songs for children, along with Woody Guthrie's wonderful instructions about how these songs should be used by parents and children alike.

Anthony Seeger

Smithsonian/Folkways Recordings

A companion recording, Woody Guthrie's *Songs to Grow on for Mother and Child* (Smithsonian/Folkways 45035) is available on compact disc and cassette.



**Smithsonian
Folkways**

Smithsonian/Folkways Recordings
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Smithsonian/Folkways Recordings

Folkways Records was one of the largest independent record companies of the mid-twentieth century. Founded by Moses Asch in 1947 and run as an independent company until its sale in 1987, Folkways was dedicated to making the world of sound available to the public. Nearly 2,200 titles were issued, including a great variety of American folk and traditional music, children's songs, world music, literature, poetry, stories, documentaries, language instruction and science and nature sounds.

The Smithsonian acquired Folkways in order to ensure that the sounds and the genius of the artists would continue to be available to future generations. Every title is being kept in print and new recordings are being issued. Administered by the Smithsonian's Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies, Folkways Recordings is one of the ways the Office supports cultural conservation and continuity, integrity, and equity for traditional artists and cultures.

Several hundred Folkways recordings are distributed by Rounder Records. The rest are available on cassette by mail order from the Smithsonian Institution. For information and catalogs telephone 202/287-3262 or write Folkways, Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies, 955 L'Enfant Plaza, Suite 2600, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560, U.S.A.

WOODY GUTHRIE NURSERY DAYS

Cathy Ann, we used to call her Miss Stackabones, heard every one of these songs before Moe Asch (the founder of Folkways Records) melted them down onto his records. And so did Tannehill Faulk, who is 2 1/2, and so did Little Annie Lomax. (She's 22 months.) They heard the Lomaxes, the Faulks, and us Guthries sing them in the car and out at the big house on the apple farm in the Pocono Mountains.

So we had, let's see now, Annie, 22 months, and Tannehill, 2 1/2 years, and Cathy, almost 4 years, Elizabeth Lomax, 28, Alan Lomax, 31, Hallie Faulk, 26, Johnnie Faulk, 32, Marjorie Guthrie, 29, and I was thirty-four (years, not months).

I really did try to slant these songs at all of you citizens from four to six, but I spilled over a little on every side, because all of us sang and danced these songs and all of us got about the same kick out of them.

Stackabones likes her songs and stories best of all when her mommy and poppy sing, talk, listen and dance with her. She joins in lots quicker, and louder, and freer when all of us lay down our books, papers, our knitting, twitting, and our heavy spirits, and all get going together on our story, our song, or dance.

We beat on books, boxes, on tin cans and floors. We rattle shakers, spoons, and bells, and we jump all around in a long trot, a rig a jig jig, a crazy lope, gallop, or wild jump. We settle down then and tell some real quiet story in a whisper. We make up some new story if we forget our old ones. She gets more fun out of this at school and at home than most any other thing she does.

I've been making up songs and playing and singing them now for twenty years, and Cathy at nearly 4 years can out rhyme, out play, out sing me, any old day. Marjorie has been a dancer and a teacher now for twelve or fifteen years with the Martha Graham Company, the Neighborhood Playhouse, and at other schools. And Cathy makes me want to dance lots of times when I don't feel like it. Her mommy says, "All of us older dancers must look to the movements of the children, we must learn to move as a child, and with the free heart and soul of a child." As for me, my own self, I don't want to see you use my songs to divide nor split your school nor your family all apart. I mean, don't just buy this record and take it home so your kids can listen to it while you go off and do something else. (Of course, that's one thing records are really good for, but that's not the best thing.)

I want to see you join right in, do what your kids do. Let your kids teach you how to play and how to act these songs out. (These and thousands of

other songs.) Get your whole family into the fun. Get poppa. Get mamma. Get brother. Get sister. Get aunty. Get uncle. Get grandma. Grandpa. The friends. The neighbors. Everybody. But mostly get yourself into it.

Please, please, please, don't read nor sing my songs like no lesson book, like no text for today. But, let them be a little key to sort of unlock and let down all of your old bars. I'm not trying to bait nor trick the little fellers into tearing through all of their fun to my songs. I know the kids will blow their tops. The kids have taught me all I know or ever hope to know.

Watch the kids. Do like they do. Act like they act. Yell like they yell. Dance the ways you see them dance. Sing like they sing. Work and rest the way the kids do.

You'll be healthier. You'll feel wealthier. You'll talk wiser. You'll go higher, do better, and live longer here amongst us if you'll just only jump in here and swim around in these songs and do like the kids do.

I don't want the kids to be grownup. I want to see the grown folks be kids.

Woody Guthrie, 1956

Woody Guthrie's life is documented on film, books, and records. *Bound for Glory* is his autobiography. *Woody Guthrie: A Life* by Joe Klein is a biography. There is also a bibliography. *A Woody Guthrie Bibliography 1912-1967*, edited by R. A. Reuss. *Hard Travelling: Woody Guthrie* is a 70-minute video documentary of his life and songs (MGM/UA release 600884).

Woody Guthrie (1912-1967) recorded many albums for Folkways Records, as well as for other labels. Among those available on Folkways are *Folkways: The Original Vision* (SF40001), *Woody Guthrie Sings Folk Songs* (SF40007), *Struggle* (SF40025), *Songs to Grow on For Mother and Child* (SF45035). Also on Folkways are Guthrie's *Bound for Glory* (2481), *Ballads of Sacco and Vanzetti* (5485). Some of his songs are featured on *Folkways: A Vision Shared* (CBS 44034).

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1. Wake Up

Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up.

Open eyes, open eyes, open eyes, open eyes;
Open eyes, open eyes, open eyes, open eyes;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Open eyes, open eyes, open eyes, open eyes.

Stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms;
Stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms.

Stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet;
Stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet;
Wake up, open eyes, and stretch your arms;
Stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet.

Stretch hands and toes and hands and toes;
And hands and toes and hands and toes;
Wake up and stretch your arms and feet;
Stretch hands and toes and hands and toes.

Wake up and play with all your toys;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;

And play with all the girls and boys;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up.

Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Wake up and see the sun shine in;
And listen to all the things outside;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up.

2. Clean-o

Mamma, o, mamma, come wash my face,
Wash my face, come wash my face,
Mamma, o, mamma, come wash my face
And make me nice and clean-o.

Daddy, o, daddy, come fix my shoe,
Fix my shoe, come fix my shoe,
Daddy, o, daddy, come fix my shoe
And polish it nice and clean-o.

Sister, o, sister, come bathe my back,
Bathe my back, come bathe my back,
Sister, o, sister, come bathe my back
And make it nice and clean-o.
Clean, o, clean, yes, clean, o, clean,
Clean, o, clean, yes, clean, o, clean,
Scrubbit, scrubbit, rubby dub dubbity,
And make it nice and clean-o.

Granny, o, granny, come wash my feet,
Wash my feet and wash my feet,

Granny, o, granny, come wash my feet,
And make them nice and clean-o.

Sweetie, o, sweetie, come smell of me now,
Smell of me now, come smell of me now,
Sweetie, o, sweetie, come smell of me now
Don't I smell nice and clean-o.

3. Dance Around

Dance around and around
And around and around
And around and around and around.

Dance around and around
And around and around
And around and around and around.

Hold up your hands
Your hands, your hands;
Hold up your hands, your hands.

Walk on your toes
Your toes, your toes;
Walk on your toes, your toes.

Now march and march
And march and march
And march and march and march.
Now march and march
And march and march,
Walk on your toes and march.

Now take big steps
Big steps, big steps,
Now take big steps, big steps.

Hold up your hands
And take big steps
And take big steps, big steps.

Dance around and around
And around and around
And around and around and around.

4. Car Song

Take me riding in the car, car
Take me riding in the car, car;
Take you riding in the car, car
Take you riding in the car.

Click, clack, open up the door girls,
Click, clack, open up the door boys,
Front door, back door, clickety, clack,
Take you riding in my car.
Climb, climb around on the front seat,
Spree, I spraddle on the back seat;
Turn my key, step on the starter,
Take you riding in my car.

Climb, climb around on the front seat,
Spree, I spraddle on the back seat;
Turn my key, step on the starter,
Take you riding in my car.

The engine it goes brrrr, brrrr,
The engine it goes brrrr, brrrr,
Front seat, back seat, boys and girls,
Take you riding in my car.

Trees and houses walk along,
Great big buildings walk along;
Truck and car and a garbage can,
Take you riding in my car.

Well, ships and little boats chug along,
Ships and little boats chug along,
Brrrr, brrrr, brrrr, brrrr,
Take you riding in my car.

I'm going to zoom you home again,
I'm going to zoom you home again,
Brrrr, brrrr roll-y home,
Take you riding in my car.

I'm going to let you blow the horn,
I'm going to let you blow the horn,
Rrrrr, rrrrr, rrrrr, rrrrr,
Take you riding in my car.

5. Don't You Push Me Down

You can play with me,
You can hold my hand;
We can skip together
Down to the pretzel man.
You can wear my mommy's dress

Wear my daddy's hat,
You can even laugh at me,
But don't you push me down. (Chorus)

Chorus:
Don't you push me, push me, push me,
Don't you push me down.
Don't you push me, push me, push me,
Don't you push me down.
You can play with me,
We can build a house;
You can catch my ball
And bounce it all around.
You can take my skates,
And ride them up and down,
You can even get mad at me,
But don't you push me down. (Chorus)

You can play with me,
We can play all day;
You can use my dishes
If you'll put them away.
You can feed me apples,
And oranges and plums,
You can even wash my face,
But don't you push me down. (Chorus)

6. My Dolly

I put my dolly's dress on,
I put my dolly's pants on,

I put my dolly's hat on
And she looks like this.

I put my dolly's stockings on,
I put my dolly's shoes on,
She acts just like a clown-o
And she looks like this.

Chorus:
O, well, she looks like this-o,
O, well, she looks like this-o.
Tra la la la la lo
And she looks like this.

My dolly talks for me, me,
My dolly walks for me, me,
When dolly walks and talks
O, well, she looks like this.

My dolly she can sing, sing,
My dolly she can dance, dance,
When dolly sings and dances
Well, she looks like this. (Chorus)

Dolly says I want to eat, eat,
Dolly says I want to drink, drink,
When dolly eats and drinks
Well, she looks like this.

Dolly plays with all her toy, toys,
Dolly plays with the girls and boy, boys
When dolly runs and skips

O, well, she looks like this. (Chorus)

I know my dolly likes me,
I know my dolly loves me,
When dolly hugs and kisses me
Well, we look like this.

Dolly says I'm getting tired now,
Dolly says I want to lay down,
When dolly goes to sleep
O, well, she looks like this. (Chorus)

7. Put Your Finger in the Air

Put your finger in the air, in the air,
Put your finger in the air, in the air,
Put your finger in the air
Put your finger in the air,
Put your finger in the air, in the air.

Put your finger on your head, on your head,
Put your finger on your head, on your head,
Put your finger on your head
Tell me is it green or red?
Put your finger on your head, on your head.

Put your finger on your nose, on your nose,
Put your finger on your nose, on your nose,
Put your finger on your nose,
And feel the cold wind blow,
Put your finger on your nose, on your nose.

Put your finger on your shoe, on your shoe,
Put your finger on your shoe, on your shoe,
Put your finger on your shoe
And leave it a day or two,
Put your finger on your shoe, on your shoe.

Put your finger on your finger, on your finger,
Put your finger on your finger, on your finger,
Put your finger on your finger
And your finger on your finger,
Put your finger on your finger, on your finger.

Put your finger on your chin, on your chin,
Put your finger on your chin, on your chin,
Put your finger on your chin
That's where the food slips in,
Put your finger on your chin, on your chin.

Put your finger on your cheek, on your cheek,
Put your finger on your cheek, on your cheek,
Put your finger on your cheek
And leave it about a week,
Put your finger on your cheek, on your cheek.

8. Come See

Mamma's got a baby goes wowdy, wowdy, wowdy,
If you don't believe me come see;
Come see my little baby go wowdy, wowdy,
wowdy,
Well, if you don't believe me come see.

Daddy's got a penny goes jingle, jingle, jangle,
etc.

Sister's got a kitten goes purrty, purrty, purrty,
etc.

Brother's got a doggy goes woof-y, goof-y, bow-
wow,
etc.

Grandpa's got a donkey goes hee-haw, hee, haw,
etc.

Come see my mamma's baby, come see my
daddy's penny,
Come see my sister's kitten, come see.
Come see my brother's doggy, come see my
grandpa's donkey,
Well, if you don't believe me come see.

Come on tip toe, come on hop skip,
Come on run, run come see,
Come o, come, come and see, o, see, see,
Well, if you don't believe me come see.

9. Race You Down the Mountain

I'll race you down the mountain (3)
We'll see who gets there first.

I'll chase you 'round the bushes (3)
We'll see who gets there first.

Let's run and jump the river (3)
We'll see who gets there first.

I hear myself a huffin'
A huffin' and a puffin'
I hear myself a huffin'
We'll see who gets there first.

Let's rest beside the water (3)
We'll see who gets there first.

I'll race you down the mountain (3)
We'll see who gets there first.

10. Howdido

You stick out your little hand
To every woman, kid, and man,
And you shake it up and down, how doo do. (2)

When I walk in our door
You came patter 'cross the floor,
And you shake it up and down, how doo do. (2)

On my side-walk in my street
Everybody that we meet,
You shake it up and down, how doo do. (2)

And when you jump up out of bed
Out the window goes your head,
And you shake it up and down, how doo do. (2)

I feel glad when you feel good
You cheer up my neighborhood,
Shaking hands with everybody, how doo do. (2)

11. Merry-go-round

Here is one way you can use this song: I'll be the
Pony, You be the Rider.

Come, let's see the merry-go-round,
The merry-go-round, the merry-go-round;
Come, let's see the merry-go-round
Go around and around and around.
Come, let's rub the pony's hair,
the pony's hair, the pony's hair;
Lots of ponies that we can ride
Around and around and around.

O, now let's climb on the pony's back
The pony's back, the pony's back;
Pick up the reins and buckle our straps
Around and around and around.

It's off we go so nice and slow,
It's up to the clouds and down we go;
Up and up and down and around,
And around and around and around.

It's faster now the pony runs,
Up to the moon and down to the sun;
Pony runs to the music and drums
Around and around and around.

Well, now he runs as fast as the wind,
He gallops, he trots and dances a jig;
Pony is tired and he wants to slow down,
Around and around and around.

The pony stops and off I climb,
It's off and off and off I climb;
I'll come back and ride some other time
Around and around and around.

(Pony and Rider slow down then come to stop.
Rider climbs down, skips away and waves
goodbye. Pony nods his head to tell Rider good-
bye.)

12. Sleep Eye

Go to sleep, go to sleep, go to sleep-y little sleep
eye.

Close the eye, close the eye, close-y eye my little
sugar.

One eye closed, two eyes closed, go to sleep-y lit-
tle sleep eye.

Go to sleep, go to sleep, go to sleep-y little sleep
eye. (2)

Eyes-y close, eyes-y close, eyes-y close my little
sugar.

One hand asleep, two hands asleep, go to sleep-y
little sleep eye.

Dream a dream, dream a dream, dream a dream
my little sweeter.

Big dream, little dream, you got to go dream go
to sleep-y little sleep eye.

Sleep-y sleep, sleep-y sleep, sleep-y sleep little
sleep eye. (2)

Go to sleep, go to sleep, o to sleep-y little sleep
eye.

13. My Yellow Crayon

Chorus:
Yellow yellow yellow yellow, my yellow crayon
(four times)

Well if you want to use my yellow crayon,
Go ahead and use my yellow crayon.
If you want to write, if you want to draw,
Go ahead and use my yellow crayon.

I put on the table my yellow crayon
So sister and brother and daddy and mom
Can see on the table my yellow crayon
And you all can use my yellow crayon.

I skipped home from school today,

And I went to find my yellow crayon.
Mommy and daddy had broke it in two
And both was using my yellow crayon.

Well if you'd like to use my yellow crayon
Just ask for me and my yellow crayon.
I'll let you use my yellow crayon,
And I'll go and get you my yellow crayon.

Now when you buy me some more crayons
Get me a whole lot of yellow crayons.
Everybody uses my yellow crayon
And I'll need plenty of yellow crayons.

Chorus
My yellow crayon, my yellow crayon,
And if you lose my yellow crayon
Then I'll cry for my yellow crayon,
'Cause I wouldn't have me no yellow crayon.

Just ask me to bring you my yellow crayon,
And I'll ask you my yellow crayon.
You say to me, "Your yellow crayon."
And I'll tell you, "Here's my yellow crayon."

You can write letters with my yellow crayon,
Pictures and numbers in yellow crayon.
It's my yellow, my yellow crayon,
And I want you to use my yellow crayon.

Now when I'm at home, my yellow crayon,
Playin' with the kids, my yellow crayon,

Swimmin' in the water, my yellow crayon,
I'll be glad to bring you my yellow crayon.

You have used my yellow crayon.
You wore it down little, my yellow crayon.
You wore it so small, my yellow crayon,
I can't even hold it, my yellow crayon.

Chorus

14. Roll On

Chorus
Roll on, little ocean,
Roll on, little ocean, roll.
Roll on, little ocean, roll, little ocean, roll

My first boat was a holler log,
Floating down a muddy flat.
Stuck my finger in the quick sand,
And what do you think about that?

Second boat was a drift of trees,
Limbs full of water snakes.
I got married to a struttin' matter,
What do you think about that?

Chorus

Next boat was a packing crate,
St. Paul to New Orleans.
I got married to a wheel stinger,
And what do you think about that?

Fourth boat was a wheely paddler,
Nothing more than a blue canoe.
I made love to a mud turtle,
Well what do you think of that?

Chorus

Fifth boat was a smoky stacker,
Death trap and nothing more,
I married me a milk goat,
What do you think about that?

Sixth boat was a steamy splasher,
Iron ore to north Duluth.
My wife was a hoteller,
And what do you think about that?

Chorus

Seventh boat was a diesel driver,
Half Ann out of Newport News.
I got married to a purple shaft,
And what do you think about that?

Eighth boat was a double stack,
Rich folks around the world.
I took up with a dingbat,
What do you think about that?

Ninth boat was a battle wagon,
Big guns both fore and aft.

I married me a smudge gullion,
What do you think about that?

Tenth boat was a life raft,
About like my holler log.
I married me a flying fish,
And what do you think about that?

Last boat was a big shell,
Way down on the ocean floor.
I courted me a ghost galleon,
What do you think about that?

Chorus

15. Jiggy Jiggy Bum

I walked out on a sagebrush hill,
Thought I'd find me a hog to kill.
I heard a big squeal and up jumped one,
I pulled my trigger and drug him home.

Chorus
Jiggy jiggy bum bum and a hey piggy run.
(repeat)

Tied my rope around his feet,
Swung him up and the meal did bleed.
Middle of the night the gray wolf come
To take his wife and family some.

Chorus

Grab my gun and run to the hill,
 Standing up in front of the old wind mill.
 I says, "Gray wolf, if you come to steal,
 I'll slit your belly and I'll hang you by the heels."

Chorus

"Old Mister Ranchman," the gray wolf said,
 "My eleven little babies are starving dead."
 I said, "Gray wolf, I'm troubled myself,
 'Cause I've got a wife and children twelve."

And the old gray wolf made the big run,
 And made me jump and I dropped my gun.
 Took my gun and threwed it in the well,
 Durn the old gray wolf's soul to hell.
 Chorus

Well the old gray wolf run back to the mill,
 Seen my hog a-hanging by his heels.
 Filled up his belly from the puddle of blood,
 Then he grabbed my hog and struck for home.

Well I tore for my house and I woke my kids,
 Told my wife what the gray wolf did.
 And the old lady hollered and the kids they
 yelled.
 They lit out over the gray wolf's trail.

Chorus

'Fore daylight we trailed him home
 In a great big cave where the batses roam.
 Sent my wife and children in.
 I waited outside in the northern wind.

Chorus

First out flew the gray wolf's nose,
 Then out flew its Sunday clothes.
 Then out sailed its hair and hide,
 And then out come my kids and wife.

Everybody had a sandwich in his hand,
 Every girl had a slice of Virginia ham.
 My wife had a hambone slick and long.
 We slipped and slid the whole road home.

Chorus

Well we got home, jumped in bed,
 Pulled the covers over our head,
 We laughed at that wolf and licked the bone,
 And this is the last of wild hog's song.

Chorus

16. Bubble Gum

Chorus

And a bubble and a bubble,
 And I bubble my gum.
 Bubble and a bubble,
 And I bubble my gum.
 Blubber and a blubber,
 And I bubble my gum,
 A bleeber and a blabber,
 And I bubble my gum.

I woke up when the mornin' come,
 Bubble and a bubble and I bubble my gum.
 Comb my teeth with a wide teeth comb,
 Bubble and a bubble and I bubble my gum.

Chorus

Squirt my toothpaste on my hair,
 Stuck my toothbrush in my ear.
 Fixed my breakfast in my room,
 And I chewed and chewed my bubble-in' gum.

Hear a little rooster crow for day,
 And I heard him crow ten miles away.
 Stirred my oatmeal with my thumb,
 And I bubbled and I bubbled my bubble-in' gum.

Chorus

Chewed my milk, drank my toast,
 I drunk down a big beef roast.
 Heard my daddy ask my mom,
 Who's that a-bubble-in' bubble-in' gum.
 My brother walked with me to school,
 He said you bubble your gum like a fool.
 He offered me a knife, some marbles and a gun,
 If I would give him my bubble-in' gum.

Chorus