

My Bonnie

Learning the song

Listen to the song

Get everyone to close their eyes and listen to the recording of [My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean](#). Encourage pupils to hum along.

- How does the music make them feel? Is this a sad or happy song?
- Imagine the scene and the settings of the song - where do you think the singer is?
- Listen to the song again - this time get everyone to sway their body to the music and imagine themselves on a boat in the sea. Get everyone to do the actions of rowing a boat to the beats of the music - by swaying to the left,

Discuss the story

Read the lyrics of the song together. Discuss and get pupils to imagine the back story of the song.

- Does the singer sound sad? Why?
- Who is the singer singing about?
- Why do you think Bonnie is over the ocean?
- Read the lyrics again, but this time to the rhythm of the melody (chant). Get everyone to chant in a sad voice.

Sing the song!

Now sing the song together!

- **The First Time** - sing the song together. Like before, sway to the music as if on a boat, and every time the word [Ocean](#) or [Sea](#) comes up, get everyone to make waves with their arms.
- **The Second Time** - teacher acts as conductor and directs how loud each phrase should be. For a loud phrase, everyone sways a little more violently and makes bigger waves with the arms. Vice versa for a quiet phrase.
- **The Third Time** - pick someone from the class to be the conductor. Instead of singing with the class this time, the teacher can sing the echo part in the verse, as such:

My Bonnie is over the ocean...

Over the ocean...

My Bonnie is over the sea...

and sing [Oh bring back my Bonnie](#) to me and the chorus in unison.

[The Fourth Time](#) - split the class - one half sings the main melody, the other sings the echo. Teacher acts as a conductor and controls the dynamics.

Clap along

Sing the song again, but this time get everyone to clap along. Really feel the speed and the pulse of the music. For those who might be unable to clap, you can use the Skoog as a percussion instrument:

1. Go to the [Instruments Menu](#).
2. Pick and click on an instrument. The most percussive sound is [Karplus String](#).



In this part of the lesson we will learn to play the tune to [My Bonnie](#) with the Skoog. We will begin by customising the Skoog with the appropriate settings.

1. Find [My Bonnie](#) in either [iTunes](#) or [Spotify](#) in the [Music Library](#) menu.
2. Go to the [Scales](#) menu and then into the [Notes](#) section, and set the notes to the colours that the Skoog says.
1. Now that you have the correct notes, you can play along with the Skoog to [My Bonnie](#)!



Playing the tune

You can find the Skore for [My Bonnie](#) on the last page of this PDF!

Following the Skore

Working together, have the pupils follow the Skore - follow the colours, and the length of the notes (the longer the box, the longer you hold down the note for). Take your time here and try singing along while playing too! In a question and answer style, each Skoog plays one phrase, alternately.

Notice that because [My Bonnie](#) is a special arrangement for the Skoog, some of the notes don't actually match with the melody (they harmonise with it!). Get pupils to spot these notes, have them play the note on the Skoog while singing the corresponding note in the melody, and discuss the idea of harmony.