

# Old Joe Clark

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of two main sections, A and B, and a final ending. Section A is a simple melody with lyrics. Section B includes a vocal line with solfège syllables and a guitar line with lyrics. The final ending repeats the melody from section A.

**A**

D D D A7  
 Round and round Old Joe Clark round and round we go.

D D D A7 D  
 Round and round Old Joe Clark round and round we go.

**B**

D D D D  
 Re Mi Fa Mi Re Re Re Mi Fa Mi Re

D D A7 D A7  
 Re Mi Fa Mi Re Re So round and round we go. Oh.

**Final Ending**

D D D A7  
 Round and round Old Joe Clark round and round we go.

D D D A7 D  
 Round and round Old Joe Clark round and round we go.

**LYRICS:**

(Variation 1)

Round and round Old Joe Clark, round and round we go.

Round and round Old Joe Clark, round and round we go.

Re Mi Fa Mi Re Re, Re Mi Fa Mi Re,

Re Mi Fa Mi Re Re So, round and round we go. Oh.

Round and round Old Joe Clark, round and round we go.

Round and round Old Joe Clark, round and round we go.

(Variation 2)

Fare thee well, Old Joe Clark. Fare thee well, I say.

Fare thee well, Old Joe Clark. I'll be on my way.

Old Joe Clark, the preacher's son, preached all over the plain.

The only text he ever knew was hi lo jack and game.

Fare thee well, Old Joe Clark. Fare thee well, I say.

Fare thee well, Old Joe Clark. I'll be on my way.

Old Joe Clark he had a mule, his name was Morgan Brown,

And every tooth in that mule's head was sixteen inches round.

Fare thee well, Old Joe Clark. Fare thee well, I say.

Fare thee well, Old Joe Clark. I'll be on my way.

#### GAME: Standing Circle Formation

Students stand in a circle either with space between each person, or with arms lifted and palms together to make windows. The leader walks in and out between people, or through the windows, until he hears the word "go" in the text of the song. At that point, he/she grabs the hand of the nearest person and keeps going ["Round and round we go." GRAB!]. The new person listens carefully for the next word "go," then grabs the nearest person. Each end person then grabs another on "go." The line never stops and grows longer and longer as the leader weaves in and out.

The song repeats until everyone is in one long line. The leader then leads the line into a spiral, and back out again. The game ends when all are once again in a standing circle.

Variation: Start the game with two ( or more) leaders, each forming a line. When everyone is chosen, one line connects with the other making one long line for the spiral.

#### SINGING

Re-mi-fa-mi-re and re to sol are highlighted in the song in this easily learned melody. Sing the song in a round: Identify the phrases, then start a new group at each new phrase. Try starting a new group every two beats. When students are confident singing their own part, have them walk around as they sing and mix up with others singing a different part.

