

California Musical History
Narration and Song List

We would like to welcome you to the 4th Graders presentation of a “California Musical History”, starting with the Gold Rush and the next ***one hundred fifty years***. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the music of the past, that chronicles some ***important historical*** events.

- a. *The Gold Rush. The discovery of gold brings people from many countries.*
- b. *The Port of San Francisco becomes notorious for shanghaiing sailors.*
- c. *The Indian population, **shrinks**.*
- d. *This bittersweet comic song, first popular in the American gold rush era of 1849-1859, describes the **hardships and frustrations** experienced by pioneer women as they moved west with their families along the immigrant roads.*
- e. *The melody is derived from the old English dance hall song, “Villikens and His Dinah.”*

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- a) *The Union Pacific, with the help of thousands of Chinese railroad workers, completes the transcontinental railroad.*
 - b) *The Southern Pacific monopolizes rail traffic to and from California.*
 - c) *After ten years of depression, the boom begins again.*

002 Sweet Betsy from Pike

**Oh don't you remember sweet Betsy from Pike
Who crossed the high mountains with her lover, Ike
With one yoke of Oxen, one spotted hog,
A tall Shanghai rooster and a big yellow dog,**

**One evening quite early they camped on the Platte
'Twas nearby the road on a green, shady flat
Sweet Betsy grew weary, lay down to repose
While Isaac stood gazing at his Pike County rose**

**They soon reached the desert where Betsy gave out
And down in the sand she lay rolling about
While Ike in with great wonder looked on in surprise
Saying, “Betsy get up, you'll get sand in your eyes!”**

**The Indians came down in a wild yelling horde
And Betsy was scared they would scalp her adored
So behind the front wagon wheel Betsy did crawl
And there she fought Indians with musket and ball**

**The horses ran off, the cattle all died
The last piece of bacon that morning was fried
Poor Ike got discouraged and Betsy got mad
The dog wagged his tail and looked wonderfully sad**

003 900 Miles

I'm walking down this track,
I've got tears in my eyes,
Trying to read a letter from my home.
If this train runs me right
I'll be home tomorrow night.
I'm nine hundred miles from my home.
And I hate to hear that lonesome whistle blow.

I'll pawn you my watch
And I'll pawn you my chain;
Pawn you my gold diamond ring.
If this train runs me right
I'll be home tomorrow night.
I'm nine hundred miles from my home.
And I hate to hear that lonesome whistle blow.

The rain I ride on
Is a thousand coaches long.

You can hear that whistle blow a hundred miles.
If this train runs me right
I'll be home tomorrow night.
I'm nine hundred miles from my home.
And I hate to hear that lonesome whistle blow.

If my woman says so
I will railroad no more
I'll sidetrack my wheeler and go home.
If this train runs me right
I'll be home tomorrow night.
I'm nine hundred miles from my home.
And I hate to hear that lonesome whistle blow.

- a. *As California enters the twentieth century, its wine and citrus industries are flourishing.*
- b. *Basques from the Pyrenees raise sheep.*
- c. *Cattle ranchers and cowboys sing songs from Mexican California and from the southern Appalachian mountains.*

005 California Here I Come

California, here I come!
Right back where I started from,
Where bowers of flowers bloom in the spring
Each morning at dawning
Birdies singing, everything.
A sun kissed mist said, "Don't be late"
That's why I can hardly wait.
Open up that Golden Gate
California Here I come!

- a. *This next song was written in 1915 and recorded by an opera singer.*
- b. *It did not become popular until the early 50's and officially became our state song in 1981.*

006 California

When the snow crowned golden Sierras
Keep their watch o'er the valleys bloom
It is there I will be, in the land by the sea
Every breeze bearing rich perfume
It is here nature gives of her rarest
It is "Home Sweet Home" to me

And I know when I die, I shall breathe my last sigh
For my sunny California

I love you California, you're the greatest state of all
I love you, in the winter, summer, spring, and in the fall
I love your fertile valleys, your dear mountains I adore
I love your grand old ocean and I love her rugged shore

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- a. Women organize against heavy drinking, sing militant songs.
 - b. Women campaign for the right to vote.
 - c. Californians sing of their love for (and frustrations with) automobiles.
 - d. The movie industry moves to California, evolving from silent movies to spectacular films.

007 The Whiskey Shops Must Go

The whiskey shops must go! (The whiskey shops must go!)
Hear the children cry for pity from the cruel heart of greed
See them trampled into silence by the monster while they plead
Be quick my patriot brother, to the rescue let us speed
The whiskey shops must go! (The whiskey shops must go!)
From the silence and the shadows where our mothers weep &
pray
With their patient hands uplifted, the woe they cannot say
We have heard a voice in treating us to sweep the curse away

The whiskey shops must go! (The whiskey shops must go!)
Rally, rally oh ye free men! (Rally, rally oh ye free men!)
Rally, rally oh ye free men! (Rally, rally oh ye free men!)
The whiskey shops must go! (The whiskey shops must go!)
Rally, rally oh ye free men! (Rally, rally oh ye free men!)
Rally, rally oh ye free men! (Rally, rally oh ye free men!)
The whiskey shops must go! (The whiskey shops must go!)

- a. *When America entered WWII (World War Two), Southern California dominated the aircraft industry, the San Francisco Bay area dominated the Shipyard.*
- b. *California was also a major producer of oil, steel, rubber, machinery and electrical equipment.*
- c. *With so many men entering the Armed Forces, women were recruited to perform jobs that had been traditionally known by men.*
- d. *Riveters, drill press operators, machine tool operators and welders.*
- e. *Women worked in factories, producing bombs, tanks, ships and airplanes,*

008 Rosie the Riveter (1942)

All the day long,
Whether rain or shine,
She's a part of the assembly line.
She's making history,
Working for victory,

Rosie's got a boyfriend, Charlie.
Charlie, he's a Marine.
Rosie is protecting Charlie,
Working overtime on the riveting machine.

Rosie the Riveter.
Keeps a sharp lookout for sabatoge,
Sitting up there on the fuselage.
That little girl will do more than a male will do.
Rosie the Riveter.

When they gave her a production "E,"
She was as proud as she could be.
There's something true about,
Red, white, and blue about,
Rosie the Riveter.

- a. *This list goes on and on for popular songs written for and about California.*
- b. *The Eagles, Hotel California. Joni Mitchell's, California. I Love L.A. Madonna's, Hollywood. Missing Person's, Walking in L.A. to list just a few.*
- c. *We'd like to include theseby Scott MacKenzie, the Mamas and the Papas, and the Beach Boys in our California Musical History.*
- d. *But my all time favorite is "I left my heart in SanDiego! (All yell, not San Diego, it's San Francisco!)*

009 San Francisco (Be sure to wear flowers in your hair)

If you're goin' to San Francisco
Be sure to wear some flowers in your hair
If you're goin' to San Francisco
You're gonna meet some gentle people
there

Such a strange vibration-uh uh
People in motion
There's a whole generation
With a new explanation-uh uh
People in motion, people in motion

For those who come to San Francisco
Summertime will be a love-in there
In the streets of San Francisco
Gentle people with flowers in their hair
All across the nation

For those who come to San Francisco
Be sure to wear some flowers in your hair
If you come to San Francisco
Summertime will be a love-in there

010 California Dreamin'

All the leaves are brown, (All the leaves are brown)
And the sky is grey, (And the sky is grey)
I've been for a walk, (I've been for a walk)
On a winter's day, (On a winter's day)
I'd be safe and warm, (I'd be safe and warm)
If I was in L.A., (If I was in L.A.)

All the leaves are brown, (All the leaves are brown)
And the sky is grey, (And the sky is grey)
I've been for a walk, (I've been for a walk)
On a winter's day, (On a winter's day)
If I didn't tell her, (If I didn't tell her)
I would leave today, (I would leave today)
California Dreamin', (California Dreamin')
On such a winter's day.
(California Dreamin')
On such a winter's day.
(California Dreamin')
On such a winter's day.

California Dreamin', (California Dreamin')
On such a winter's day.

HB Surf City Medley

If everybody had an ocean, across the U.S.A.
Then everybody'd be surfin', Like Californ - i - a.
You'd see them wearin' their baggies,
Huarachi sandals too.
A bushy bushy blonde hairdo, Surfin' U.S.A.
Tell the teacher we're surfin', Surfin' U.S.A.
Everybody's gone surfin', Surfin' U.S.A.

There are a lot of great surfin' tunes but when Jan and Dean released this song in 1963, it immortalized Huntington Beach as

The "Surf City" capital.

I bought a thirty four wagon and
We call it a woody.

Surf City here we come!
You know it's not very cherry it's an oldie,
But a goodie.
Surf City here we come!
Well, it ain't got a backseat or a rear window,
But it still gets me where I wanna go!
(Car screeches to a halt)
All yell, "Be Careful!"

*Gonna stay in Surf City 'cause it's still the one.
I'm gonna stay in Surf City, gonna have some fun
Gonna stay in Surf City 'cause it's still one.
I'm gonna stay in Surf City, gonna have some fun.
HB is still the one*

HB is still the... HB is still the... HB is still the... HB's the ONE!

12 (We live in) Huntington Beach

We live in Huntington Beach
We love it in Huntington Beach
There's no place like it, Huntington Beach
We've got the best of everything
So many interesting things
From striking oil and awesome surfing.
Beautiful stretches of sand
Ever wonder how it began

Hun-ting-ton Beach!
There's so much history for us to teach
How many names did she have?
Why not go through them all?
The Gospel Swamp, Shell Beach, Pacific City,
Huntington Beach!

California Facts

California was the 31st state in the [USA](#); it was admitted on September 9, 1850.

With about 34 million people here, California is the [3rd biggest state](#) in the USA

Major Industries - agriculture, oil, mining, electronics, movie making/entertainment, and tourism

Highest Point - Mt. Whitney, 14,495 feet above sea level

Lowest Point - Death Valley, 282 feet below sea level

The name, "California", comes from a mythical Spanish island ruled by a queen called *Califia* (the Spanish

explorers originally thought that California was an island).

State Capital - Sacramento
State Nickname - The Golden State

State Motto - Eureka (I have found it)

State Song - "I Love You, California"