

Flower Power!

Sample



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Caroline Wedd

Flower Power!

Foreword

Dear Music Lover,

The songs in this book came about as a result of me being encouraged by a teaching colleague to have a go at writing songs to accompany the **Flower Power!** picture storybook; the most recent song, *Unfold*, (January 2019) came from a desire to create an over-arching theme song for **Flower Power!**

Together, I hope that the songs and music will encourage children and adults to enjoy their own imagination and creativity as they read, sing, dance and/or dramatize the **Flower Power!** story; some of the songs can be used individually and may be suitable for all sorts of occasions both within and outside of school settings.

Whatever you choose to do, I sincerely hope that the **Flower Power!** songs and music bring you a smile or two, the encouragement to engage with others in the enjoyment of singing and music, and the confidence to 'unfold your life' and have a go at doing what makes *your* heart sing.

Do please get in touch and let me know how you get on – I look forward to hearing from you!

All good wishes,
Caroline x

You can get in touch and find out more about **Flower Power!** at:
Website: www.flowerpowerbook.co.uk
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Flower Power!

The little flower lives in the corner of the garden. Can she survive the dangers that she meets there? We all start life as little flowers. The story of **Flower Power!** shows us that all we need is a little bit of love and encouragement to help us to flourish and grow.

Suitable for KS1 (Some songs suitable for use by EYS, KS2 and above)

Approximate length – 30 minutes.

Eight Songs and Three Pieces of Instrumental Music

1. Introduction: Flower Prelude – piano/keyboard solo
2. Flower! – optional triangle part
3. Sprinkles: green watering can music – keyboard with percussion
4. Green Watering Can Song – optional vocal solo, woodblock
5. Splashes: red watering can music – keyboard with percussion
6. Red Watering Can Song – optional vocal solo, cowbell, metal objects, e.g. watering cans
7. Playtime Boogie – dance, simple two-part singing
8. Poor Little Flower! – optional simple two-part song, chime bar/glockenspiel part
9. Just Because – optional solo
10. Unfold – optional two-part singing
11. Finale: Begin it Now – optional two-part singing

Melody line, piano accompaniment, guitar chords and simple percussion.

A full performance can include songs, solo singing, simple two-part singing, percussion, musical improvisation, dance, collective and solo speaking, mime and movement.

Alternatively, **Flower Power!** can be narrated as a story with accompanying songs.

Flower Power! is a simple story with a strong message, and a very happy ending! It is about love, encouragement and perseverance; it questions how we care for the world, how we care for each other – how we live our lives – in a way that is easily understood by young children and adults alike.

Flower Power! the musical supports work in PSHE, core subjects in the National Curriculum, can be a resource for Collective Worship and accompanies the picture storybook **Flower Power!**.

I have presented **Flower Power!** here in story form. Children can speak the narration as soloists or collectively; alternatively, a teacher can read the narration. How much of a play develops depends on the teacher, time available and the group of children involved.

Cast

I wrote the **Flower Power!** songs and music for my KS1 singing class of 64 children; it is suitable for use with any number of children, great or small. My KS1 children thoroughly enjoyed all the preparations and rehearsals of **Flower Power!** which culminated in a performance to parents, friends, and the rest of the school.

Suggestions for performance

The children sat in a wedge shape and used the central area for the mime and dance:



We made paper head dresses in school to represent the flowers, different birds and creatures; brightly coloured T-shirts and summer dresses finished off the outfits. We had lots of fun making props such as a big flower pot and flower collages in art that were used as a backdrop for our performance.

We also used donations of artificial flowers as well as real plants and flowers to provide scenery. Our school hall looked really beautiful and the children were really excited about the whole occasion. Or why not perform it outside in a real garden, school playing field or playground?

There are lots of opportunities for creative fun, improvising with percussion, voices, hands and bodies as in, for example, *Sprinkles* and *Splashes*, the red and green watering can music, or, children can create their own soundscapes with or without the use of the keyboard music provided here.

My own favourite song is *Just Because* which expresses so much about what the **Flower Power!** project stands for, but the children's favourite was definitely *Playtime Boogie*!

All good wishes,
Caroline x

February 2019

Characters

The Little Flower (optional solo)

Flowers

Ladybirds

Butterflies

Green Watering Cans (optional solo part)

Red Watering Cans (optional solo part)

Children

Birds

NB: Other possible characters from nature, for example, spiders, ants, snails, bumble bees, can be included, and you can have as few or as many of all of the above characters as you like!

Script and Song Lyrics

Suggested Entrance Music: As the children enter the performing area play Tchaikovsky's Waltz of the Flowers from The Nutcracker ballet suite op.71, or music of choice.

ALL SIT

1. INTRODUCTION: Flower Prelude

During the playing of this music, or upon the repeat if preferred, narrate the following quotation from *An Island Garden*, Ella Thaxter. Pub. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1894, Public Domain.

Narrator:

"Often I hear people say, 'How do you make your plants flourish like this?' As they admire the little flower patch I cultivate in summer, or the window gardens that bloom for me in the winter; 'I can never make my plants blossom like this! What is your secret?' And I answer with one word, 'Love!'"

MUSIC ENDS

Narrator:

Once upon a time a little flower lived in the corner of a garden. Every morning when the warm sun touched her face the little flower woke up, stretched, and smiled.

(All Flowers slowly uncurl, stand up, stretch, wave and smile)

Narrator:

Her petals waved in the wind and she played with the ladybirds and butterflies.

(Enter Ladybirds and Butterflies who dance around the Flowers)

ALL STAND

2. SONG: Flower!

1. The flowers that grow in my garden
Are beautiful, ev'ry one!
Be they rose or weed they all grow from the seed
And a new life has begun.

Chorus So sing a song in praise of flowers
And children just like me!
With a little bit of love and encouragement
I'll be the best that I can be.

2. The flowers that grow in my garden
Are wonderful, 'cos they know
Tho' the wind may blow, facing storm, rain and snow,
Still they smile and stretch and grow.



Flower Prelude

Words and Music by
Caroline Wedd

Cantabile con anima ♩ = 66

Sample

mf

C/E

Dm

3

Bb

F

A

Bb

cresc.

C7

F

Dm

Bb

C#dim7

F

Dm

Bb

dim.

mf

cresc.

Bbm

F

Optional repeat

Fmaj7

Bb9

F

F

mp

pp