**Sensory and Music Story: Round the World – Ireland!**

*This ‘Sensory and Music Story’ has been designed to be used either by a parent / carer and child at home, or as part of a Music Therapy session, led by a Music Therapist via Zoom.*

**Hints and tips:**

* Gather all the props before you start. If you do not have everything exactly, don’t worry – any improvisations are fine!
* Familiarise yourself with the story and what happens where. Think how you will use the props and songs to make the most impact and sense to the child you are working with.
* It is natural to feel self-conscious about singing, but there are no ‘X Factor’ style judgements being made about your voice! If you can sing with more confidence and volume then that will make more of an impact – it does not matter if you are out of tune (or think you are!).
* If you have other small instruments at home, you may want to use these with the child you are working with during the songs.
* Read the story slowly, repeating the part of the story that has just been read when feeling the relevant props. If the child is responsive to a certain part – or you know from previous experience that they will enjoy something – then stay longer with that prop or song.

**Props:**

Water spray

Torch

Leaves / twigs / and wooden instruments

Pebbles / rocks

Sea shell

Small green leaf / something small and green to be a shamrock!

Thread / cotton or similar – for Michael Finnegan’s whiskers!

Pot of gold – or a pot with a few coins in!

Bells / chimes

**The Story:**

It was a lovely sunny day – where shall we go? Let’s go to… Ireland!

**Sing:** We’re all Going to Ireland Today

How did you get there? Did you fly on a plane? Or did you go on the train and then over the Irish Sea? I hope you went on the ferry and not a pirate ship…

**Sing:** When I was one

Well, now we had all arrived, what should we do? As we were thinking, it started to rain! But… at the same time the sun came out!

**Feel:** Water spray for the rain on one side of body, and torch for the sun over the other side!

Both the rain and sun at the same time meant that a rainbow came out – it was beautiful with all the different colours!

**Sing:** I Can Sing a Rainbow

In Ireland, it is said the leprechauns hide a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow! We set off on a quest to find the end of the rainbow and the pot of gold.

We went through a forest, feeling the wood of the trees and the leaves as we went – but still we didn’t get to the end of the rainbow and the pot of gold.

**Feel:** leaves / twigs / and wooden instruments

We went up a rocky mountain – but when we got to the top we still hadn’t got to the end of the rainbow, and we had to come down the other side.

**Feel:** pebbles / rocks. Feel going up and down.

**Sing:** Up the Hill

We went through the city of Dublin, and saw a woman selling cockles and mussels on a market stall. ‘Do you know where the end of the rainbow is?’ we asked her. But instead, she just sang us a song!

**Sing:** Molly Malone

**Feel:** A sea shell

We kept on going, out of the city, but we felt no nearer to the end of the rainbow. We needed something to bring us the luck of the Irish… would we be able to find a shamrock to help us??

**Sing:** I’m a Little Shamrock

**Feel:** Something small and green!

We were beginning to feel a bit tired… we had been on a long journey!! Would we ever get there? We stopped and asked an old man at the side of the road… but everyone here just seemed to sing us songs!

**Sing:** Michael Finnegan

**Feel:** Some cotton or thread – for his whiskers!

Just as we were starting to give up hope, we finally came round a corner and saw the end of the rainbow! But… guarding the pot of gold was a leprechaun!

When we got to the leprechaun, he said that we had to prove that we had been on a noble journey and give him some gifts in exchange for the gold! We gave him all the things we had gathered on our journey – the leaves from the forest, the rocks from the mountain, the sea shell from Molly Malone, the four leafed shamrock, and even some of Michael Finnegan’s whiskers!

**Feel:** Pass each of the things from the journey.

But there was one last thing the leprechaun wanted. He said that if he was to give us the pot of gold, we had to promise not just to spend it on ourselves, but to share it with other people. We could not think how to answer him – but then we realised just the thing! We would take the pot of gold back to Little Havens!

The leprechaun seemed very pleased with that answer and gave us the pot of gold!!

**Feel:** Shake the pot of gold!

We were excited to take the pot of gold back home… but our journey had been very long, and we wouldn’t be able to cross back over the Irish Sea until tomorrow. So we settled down to spend the night on the Emerald Isle, with the stars coming out above us, and the sound of Irish music coming across the wind.

**Sing:** Twinkle Twinkle

**Song Words**

**We’re all going to Ireland Today**

We’re all going to Ireland today,

Ireland today, Ireland today

We’re all going to Ireland today,

We’re going to stay all day!

We could fly on a plane

We could go on the train

And then go over the sea

How shall we travel, you and me!

**When I was one I sucked my thumb**

When I was ONE I sucked my thumb,  
The day I went to sea.  
I jumped aboard a pirate ship,  
And the captain said to me –

We're going this way, that way,  
Forwards and backwards,  
Over the Irish Sea,  
We're going this way, that way,  
Forwards and backwards,  
That's the life for me!

When I was TWO I buckled my shoe,  
The day I went to sea.  
I jumped aboard a pirate ship,  
And the captain said to me –

We're going this way, that way,  
Forwards and backwards,  
Over the Irish Sea,  
We're going this way, that way,  
Forwards and backwards,  
That's the life for me!

When I was THREE I bashed my knee,  
The day I went to sea.  
I jumped aboard a pirate ship,  
And the captain said to me –

We're going this way, that way,  
Forwards and backwards,  
Over the Irish Sea,  
We're going this way, that way,  
Forwards and backwards,  
That's the life for me!

**I Can Sing a Rainbow**

Red and yellow and pink and green  
Purple and orange and blue  
I can sing a rainbow  
Sing a rainbow  
Sing a rainbow too

Listen with your eyes  
Listen with your ears  
And sing everything you see  
I can sing a rainbow  
Sing a rainbow  
Sing along with me

Red and yellow and pink and green  
Purple and orange and blue  
I can sing a rainbow  
Sing a rainbow  
Sing a rainbow too

**Up the Hill** – to the tune of The Grand Old Duke of York

The Little Havens gang

They had 10,000 men

They marched them up to the top of the hill

And they marched them down again

And when they were up they were up

And when they were down they were down

And when they were only half way up

They were neither up nor down

**Molly Malone**

In Dublin's fair city  
Where the girls are so pretty  
I first set my eyes on sweet Molly Malone  
As she wheeled her wheelbarrow  
Through the streets broad and narrow  
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"

Alive, alive, oh  
Alive, alive, oh  
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"

**I’m a Little Shamrock**

I’m a little shamrock

See my leaves

Count my petals

If you please

If you give me water

And lots of sun

I’ll bring you good luck

And lots of fun!

**Michael Finnegan**

There was an old man named Michael Finnegan  
He had whiskers on his chin-a-gen  
Along came the wind and blew them in again  
Poor, old Michael Finnegan, begin again

**Twinkle Twinkle**

Twinkle, twinkle, little star

How I wonder what you are

Up above the world so high

Like a diamond in the sky

Twinkle, twinkle, little star  
How I wonder what you are

*Songs: public domain except where indicated.*

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