



Today is Hogmanay  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
Language Arts/Music  
Josh Roberts

#### **Language Arts, RL.3.4**

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral phrases.

#### **Music, 3.M.P.4**

Sing folk, traditional, and call and response songs in tune, with good vocal tone.

**Objective:** Students will learn about New Year's through the lens of Scotland, and compare New Year's traditions around the world.

#### **Materials:**

- Way of displaying text for students to see.
- Images of Scotland, Hogmanay, and other new year's traditions (PowerPoint)
- Recordings of bagpipes and Auld Lang Syne
- Open space

New Year's Day (Jan. 1) is one of the few universal holidays in the world. Other cultures, such as China, still celebrate their traditional New Year's as well at other times. Hogmanay is the Scottish name for the holiday which has its origins in the celebration of the winter solstice. In Scotland, the tradition of *first-footing* takes place after midnight. People visit their neighbors bringing certain gifts for luck, and gifts are also given to the visitors.

#### **Today is Hogmanay**

This is a children's song about the holiday. It is sung in Scot's English which has different spellings of English words. Sing it to the class, and in small groups see if students can decipher the lyrics to the song. Teach the song with echoes. The "ah" section is supposed to mimic a bagpipe: plug your nose and thump your neck on the beat to get the affect.

#### **Auld Lang Syne**

This song is the near universal New Year's song. People all over the world sing it on Jan.

**1. Sing the song, and teach it to your students.** Once they have it learned teach them the action.

1. Make a standing circle.
2. Everyone crosses their arm **over** their right arm, and joins hands with their neighbors.
3. Sing Auld Lang Syne with arms crossed one time. This represents the past year.
4. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> time through, everyone turns to face outwards by going under their right arms at the same time. This represents the new year.

**Note:** If arms are crossed incorrectly it won't work.

#### **Extensions:**

Vocabulary:

*Hogmanay*- New Year's.    *Ah'm*- I'm    *Guan*- gone    *Doon*- down    *Brae*- steep banks  
*Ma*- my    *Ah'll*- I'll    *Tak*- take    *Tae*- to

Questions:

Have you ever heard Auld Lang Syne? Where?

What do the actions of the song mean? - reflect on the last year, make goals for the new.  
Why do we celebrate New Year's Day in January?  
When do other cultures celebrate New Year's Day?  
How do they celebrate New Year's?  
What traditions do you have for New Year's?

# Today is Hogmanay

## Scottish Children's Song

Traditional  
Ewan McVicar  
Arr. Josh Roberts

F C7 F

To - day is Hog-man - ay To - mor - row's Hog - ma - na - ny, And ah'm guan doon the brae tae

C7 F F F

4 see ma Ir - ish gran - nie ah'll tak her tae a ball, ah'll tak her tae a sup - per. And

Bb C7 F F C7

7 when I get her there, ah'll stick her nose in the but - ter. Sing - ing ah, ah, ah. Ah, ah, ah.

F C7

11 Ah, — ah, — ah. And that's the Gae - lic cho - rus.

# Auld Lang Syne

Traditional Scottish Song

Traditional  
Robert Burns

