



**ARTS FOR
LEARNING**
EARLY CHILDHOOD

Assembly Guide

ALDEN PHELPS

Silly Songs with the Barnyard Bard

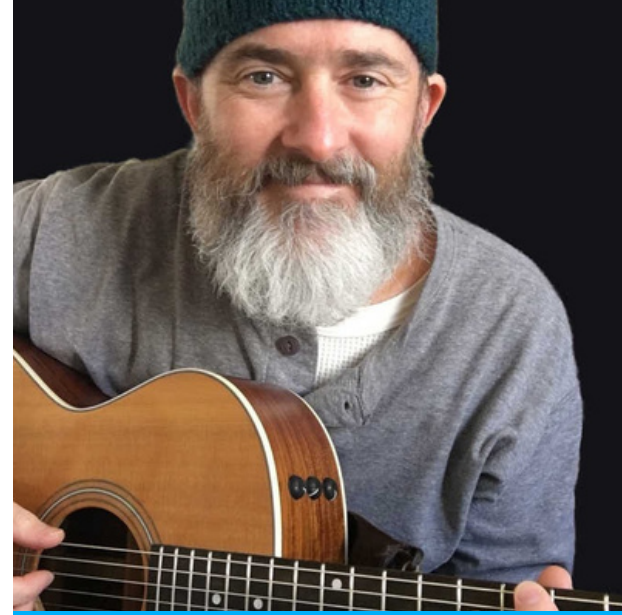
Using various animal-themed songs like “Everybody’s Wakin’ Up,” along with vibrant visuals and animated narratives, students are provided with an enjoyable way to develop an understanding and appreciation for farms. This interactive experience includes activities like “The Breakfast Game” and the “Where Did it Come From?” game, designed to highlight farms’ significant role in our daily lives.

Performing Arts Elements

- Steady Beat
- High/Low Pitch
- Fast/Slow Tempo

MARYLAND
WOLF TRAP | INSTITUTE FOR
EARLY LEARNING
THROUGH THE ARTS

artsforlearningmd.org



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Alden Phelps is a Wolf Trap-trained Early Childhood teaching artist with Arts for Learning Maryland. He is an artist, songwriter, and musician with over 20 years of experience performing for audiences of all kinds across the region. Alden’s zany songs, zippy guitarifications, and sing-along choruses delight folks of all ages, and his arts-integrated interactive workshops inspire a love of language and the joy of playing with words.

ART FORM

Music

AGE GROUP

3 - 6 years old

Targeted Vocabulary

- **Steady Beat:** The ongoing, steady, repetitive pulse that occurs in songs, chants, rhymes, and music.
- **Pitch:** The frequency of sound. Whether a note sounds high or low.
- **Tempo:** Music rate of speed. How fast or slow the music is
- **Farm Vocabulary:** Grow, field, crops, cows (and various other farm animals), wheat, oats, cotton, silk, rubber, maple syrup, maple tree, fox, eggs, butter, milk, etc.
- **Textures:** The physical composition of something, or the look and feel of fabric (e.g., cotton, wool, rubber, silk, etc.)

Pre- and Post-Assembly Activities

- Read texts about farms
- Sing these familiar farm songs together
- Listen to Farmer Alden's album Silly Songs with the Barnyard Bard
- Visit a farm
- Create songs about animals, what they produce (e.g. cows produce milk), or sounds they make.
- Play a game of farm musical charades. Include movements and sounds and see if others can guess the animal.
- Sing farm alliteration. Alliteration is the conspicuous repetition of identical initial consonant sounds in words. For example, Gleeful Gray Goat.

Recommended Children's Literature

- *Farming by Gail Gibbons*
- *Anywhere Farm by Phyllis Root*
- *The Farm That Feeds Us by Nancy Castaldo*

Technical Needs

This section includes the technical requirements for the performance. These specifications are provided to facilitate the artist's presentation.

- 10' x 10' clear area
- Access to performance area 1- hour prior to set up
- Artist will provide a sound system for audiences of over 50 people or for large rooms/ gyms.
- The performer will need a power outlet to plug in the sound system.

Music Featured in this Assembly

- Silly Songs with the Barnyard Bard album by Alden Phelps (found on YouTube, iTunes, Spotify, etc.)



Maryland Fine Arts Standards

- I:P-2:1: Communicate purpose through music performance.
- E:P-2:2: Create music with simple melodic, rhythmic, dynamic, and formal elements, in response to artistic stimuli, using appropriate technology as available.
- E:P-2:3: Demonstrate awareness of artistic qualities when performing musical ideas.

Maryland Early Learning Standards

- Strand: L.EL: Early Literacy
- Standard: L.EL.2: Demonstrates interest and attention to language and structure used in books, rhymes, and storytelling.
- Strand L.VO: Vocabulary
- Standard: L.VO.3: Uses an increasing number of words to describe people and objects in the environment.
- Strand P.PS: Perception and Sensory Integration
- Standard: P.PS.1: Uses and integrates information from the senses to explore and learn about objects, people, and experiences and to navigate own movement and actions.

Maryland Pre-K +Kindergarten Standards

- RF.PK.2 Demonstrate understanding of spoken words and sounds (phonemes).
 - RF.PK.2.a Recognize rhyming words in spoken language.
 - RF.K.2.a Recognize and produce rhyming words.
- RI.PK.10 Actively engage in-group reading activities with purpose and understanding.
- PK.MD.B.3 Sort objects into given categories and self-selected categories. Identify the attribute by which the objects were sorted. (Limit category counts to less than 5)



About Early Childhood Assemblies

Inspire your students with a live, interactive, educational arts assembly performance by an Arts for Learning teaching artist or ensemble. Assemblies are 30 minutes with a maximum audience size of 250 students unless otherwise specified.

Other Early Childhood Programs We Offer

As the Maryland affiliate of Wolf Trap National, Arts for Learning Maryland Early Childhood programs prepare our youngest children for a lifetime of learning by empowering educators, caregivers, and childcare providers to use arts-integrated learning strategies in every facet of early childhood education. Our programs, led by Wolf Trap-trained teaching artists, combine content and skills from the arts, including singing, dancing, role-playing, and storytelling, with core subjects such as language, literacy, science, math, and social and emotional skills.

- **Wolf Trap Baby Artsplay!™ Residencies:** Engaging activities created for infant/toddler parents, caregivers, and educators.
- **Wolf Trap PK/K Classroom Residencies:** Literacy and STEM-based sessions train teachers to integrate the arts into their classrooms effectively.
- **Theme-Based Residencies:** Student centered, classroom-based sessions focused on interactive arts or arts integration experiences for PK/K children.
- **Early Childhood Interactive Workshops & Assemblies:** Artists engage our youngest learners and families in hands-on creativity to support the learning of any topic.
- **Professional Learning for Educators:** Workshops that deliver guidance on integrating arts strategies into classroom teaching

About Arts for Learning

Arts for Learning Maryland (formerly Young Audiences of Maryland) is a nonprofit organization devoted to enriching the lives and education of Maryland's youth through educational and culturally diverse arts programs. Through Arts for Learning, professional teaching artists from all disciplines partner with educators, schools, and school districts to provide, on average, over 300,000 hours of learning in, through, and about the arts to more than 185,000 Maryland students annually.

We are a mission-driven organization that values community, innovation, and passion. Our staff, board, and teaching artists have a shared commitment to advancing equity in education by working tirelessly to generate opportunities for students to imagine, create, and realize their full potential through the arts.



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Learn More about Our Early Childhood Programs

