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Lesson Plan  
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## Scotland's Burning Lesson

This lesson includes singing, dancing, and instrument playing to the traditional nursery rhyme "Scotland's Burning." This simple melody and dance will provide an opportunity to focus on singing, dancing, and playing in a round. Please take this and use any part of it you like. This short song has a very catchy melody and the possibilities are endless.

Grade Level: 3rd-5th

Nebraska K-12 Fine Arts Standards: Music. FA. 5.4.2 Students will sing and/or play instruments to a variety of music that incorporates multiple elements of music.

Lesson Objectives: Students will sing, dance, and play Scotland's Burning. Students will perform in a round.

Student language: I can sing, dance, and play Scotland's Burning. I can perform in a round.

Materials: Bass, alto, and soprano Orff instruments.

Optional Materials: Parachute.

### Singing

# Scotland's Burning

Traditional  
Arr. by S. Elker

♩ = 72

Voice

Scot-land's burn - ing, Scot-land's burn - ing, Look out! Look out!

5  
Fire! Fire! Fire! Fire! Pour on wa - ter pour on wa - ter.

Teacher will sing the entire song for the class. Then say “This time I want you to count how many short phrases you hear in the song.” The teacher will repeat the song while students count the phrases (4). Teacher will then say “This time as I sing it I will show you the four phrases and I want someone to decide which phrase will be the classes to sing 1,2,3, or 4.” Teacher sings again and points to a finger (1,2,3,4) for each phrase. A student from the class chooses which phrase the class will sing. The teacher sings three of the phrases and the class sings one of their choosing. Repeat this process by giving the class one line to sing at a time until the class has learned the whole song.

After the song has been mastered, have the class sing the song in a two part round. Have the second part come in on measure 5. That way phrases 1 and 4 don’t overlap (because they are identical in melody).

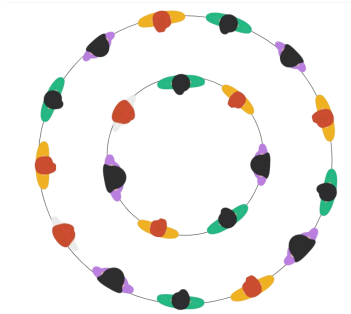
Dancing

The formation for this dance will be a single circle.



Lyrics	Dance
Scotland’s burning, Scotland’s burning	Students take hands and walk to the right.
Look out! Look out!	Students turn bodies to face the outside of the circle to “look out.” Students take hands and walk to the left (which means they still walk in the same direction as before).
Fire! Fire! Fire! Fire!	Drop hands, put hands over head and wiggle fingers to be “fire” while walking the opposite direction from before.
Pour on water, pour on water.	Turn bodies to face the inside of the circle, take hands, raise them up gently and move them down gently.

After learning the dance, create two circles (inner and outer). Have the groups perform in a round.



Optional: Add a parachute to the dance. Use only a single circle. During “Pour on water, pour on water” the parachute will move up and down.



### Xylophone Arrangement

The instrument part to this song includes a crossover bordun and two separate parts. Teacher will demonstrate each part and teach by rote.

Another option for this song is simply to teach the melodic line and have students play the song in a round.

History of the Song-Optional:

#### Scotland's Burning Song History

This nursery rhyme has lyrics that are sometimes called Scotland's Burning or London's Burning. The Scottish lyrics are about the Burning of Edinburgh in 1544. The English lyrics refer to the Great Fire of London in 1666. This melody has been around for hundreds of years and the song can be performed as a round.



Painting of the Great Fire of London  
(artist unknown)

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Traditional  
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♩ = 72

The musical score is arranged in four systems. The first system includes a Voice part and three Xylophone parts (Soprano, Alto, Bass). The second system continues the Xylophone parts. The third system includes a new Voice part and continues the Xylophone parts. The fourth system continues the Xylophone parts. The music is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb).

**System 1:**

- Voice:** Scot-land's burn - ing, Scot-land's burn - ing, Look out! Look out!
- Soprano Xylophone:** Ooo! Aah! This fire is too hot!
- Alto Xylophone:** Oh! No! There's a fire!
- Bass Xylophone:** (Bass line)

**System 2:**

- Soprano Xylophone:** Ooo! Aah! This fire is too hot!
- Alto Xylophone:** Oh! No! There's a fire!
- Bass Xylophone:** (Bass line)

**System 3:**

- Voice:** Fire! Fire! Fire! Fire! Pour on wa - ter pour on wa - ter.
- Soprano Xylophone:** Ooo! Aah! This fire is too hot!
- Alto Xylophone:** Oh! No! There's a fire!
- Bass Xylophone:** (Bass line)

**System 4:**

- Soprano Xylophone:** Ooo! Aah! This fire is too hot!
- Alto Xylophone:** Oh! No! There's a fire!
- Bass Xylophone:** (Bass line)