

Some Kid- Friendly Dakota Songs

Before the people of the Crow Creek Sioux Reservation spoke English, they all spoke in a beautiful language called Dakota. You still hear the Dakota language spoken or prayed with at special occasions such as Pow-wows or Graduations. Dakota songs are also sung at DWM church service, funerals, weddings, or other special occasions. The Tribal school has a Dakota language class, and knowing many words and phrases is a special way the children learn about the Dakota Culture.

Jesus Loves Me

Pronunciation Help in Parenthesis

Jesus Christ waste mada, (Jay-zus Christ wash-tay maw-daw)

Wowapi Wakan heye, (Wo-wah-pee Wah-kawn Hay-yay)

Miye on te hi qon he, (Mee-yay own tay hee kone hay)

Wanna he wanakaja (Wah-nah hay wah-nah-kaw-zha)

Chorus:

Han Jesus waste, (Huh Jay-zus wash-tay)

Han Jesus waste, (Huh Jay-zus wash-tay)

Han Jesus waste, (Huh Jay-zus wash-tay)

Waste madakaye (Wash-tay maw-daw-kaw-yay)

Happy Birthday

Woe wee you shkeen tawn-kaw

Woe wee you shkeen tawn-kaw

Woe wee you shkeen tawn-kaw

Woe wee you shkeen _____

(insert name of birthday boy or girl, or repeat tawn-kaw)

Meaning of Happy Birthday:

The Dakota phrase "Woe wee you shkeen" means-- "We rejoice with you". "Tawn-kaw" means big or very much.