



Project Donkilloo Laa

SONG SWAP & SHARE

Colour your own Songbook

Celebrating children's loved songs
from The Gambia and the UK



Songs collected and curated by
Jude Finlay and Musa Bah
Music composed by Pa Bobo Jobarteh and Jude Finlay



ASSOCIATED WITH A MEMBER OF
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Kindly supported by
Arts Council England and
BeatFeet Drumming & Dance Workshops





A unique collaboration, Project Donkilloo Laa – Song swap & share – invited children in The Gambia and the UK to celebrate and share their favourite songs with each other. Children sang in their everyday languages, such as Mandinka, Wolof, Fula, Jola and English, then sent these as recordings to each other, helping to establish a sense of connection and community. Thanks to this project, they've made penpals and built friendships reaching right across the oceans.



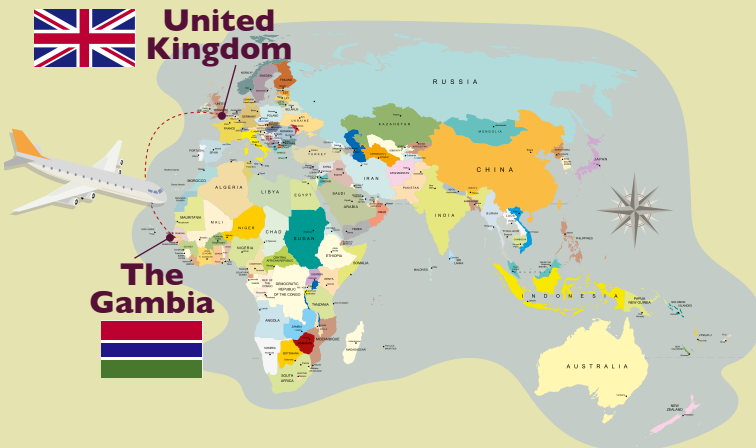
Now you can enjoy exploring our collection of songs even more by colouring in all the characters and lyrics. Choose your favourite colour for the Ninkinankoo and jumping fish, then add colour to the Gambian countryside and deep blue Atlantic Ocean. We'd love to see your designs. Email us at info@beatfeetdrumming.co.uk and have your artwork feature on our website.

Scan the QR code on this page to take you to our collection of recordings over on YouTube.



Let the songs inspire your artwork. Happy colouring!

Jude, MuSa and Pa Bobo



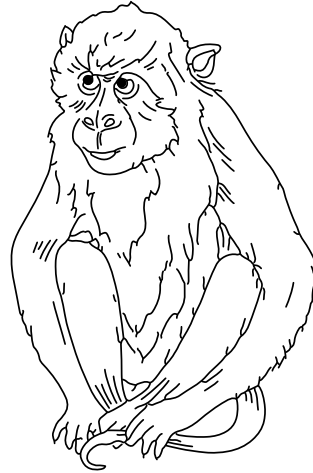
The Gambia is the smallest country on the mainland of Africa. Tourism and agriculture are the main industries. English is the official language, and many indigenous languages are spoken within communities, such as Mandinka, Wolof, Fula and Jola. Musical expression and creativity hold an important role in everyday life, and children are encouraged to grow into the country's rich musical culture.



Waandu

Aaa ko aan bonni
Ngesa baaba am
Aaa ko aan bonni
Ngesi baaba am.

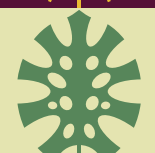
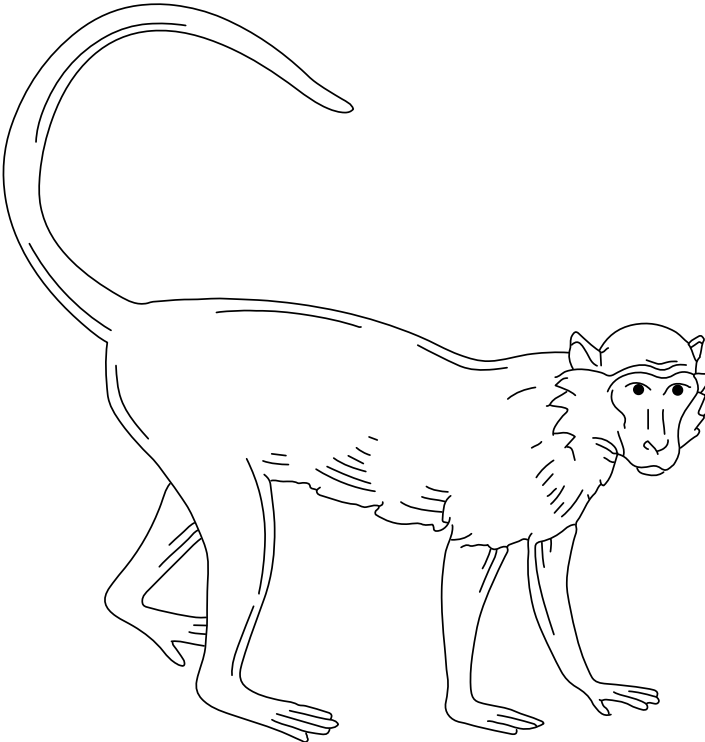
Aaa ko aan bonni
Ngesa baaba am
Aaa ko aan bonni
Ngesi baaba am.



Monkey

Oh, you destroyed my father's farm
Oh, monkey, you destroyed my father's farm

Oh, you destroyed my father's farm
Oh, monkey, you destroyed my father's farm.






Sona Mariama

(Mandinka)



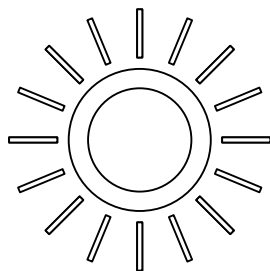
Sona Mariama

Sona Mariama, wo Sona Mariama
Dindiŋ balanta â baa maa koy la
Sona Mariama.




Ako abi taalaa koo ree to
Kooma-kooma woyo daala
Sona Mariama.

Adiŋ-diŋ din din bamboo woo, Sona Mariama
A tilo binaa n'faala, Sona Mariama.




Sona Mariama

(The name of a young girl)



Sona Mariama, oh Sona Mariama
A child who refused to work for her mother and father
Sona Mariama.



She wants to wander like cattle
or like water in a stream
Sona Mariama.

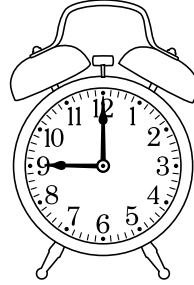
She should carry the baby, Sona Mariama
The sun is so hot, Sona Mariama.





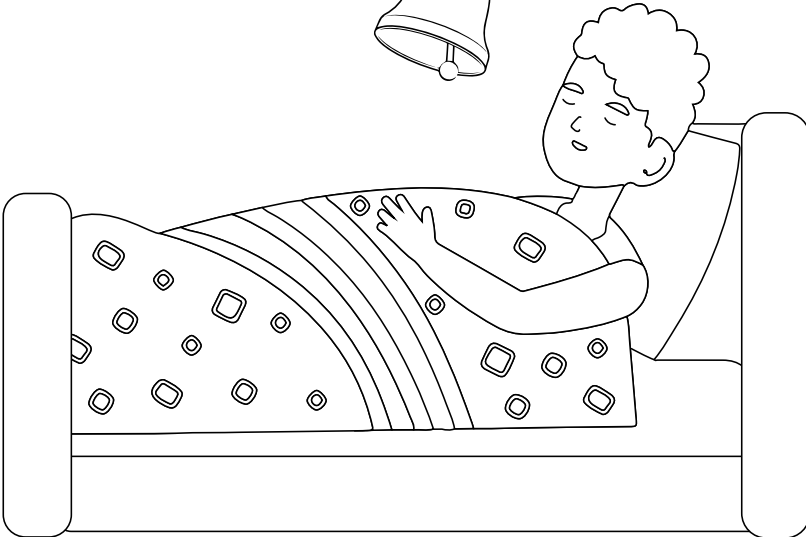
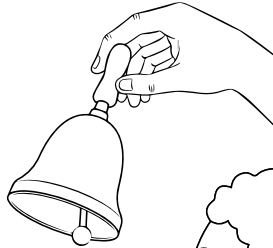
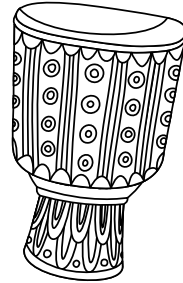
Sama Rakka

Sama rakka, sama rakka
Sama rakka, sama rakka
Yeewooguloo, yeewooguloo
Tëgga na, tëgga na
Tëgga na, tëgga na
Ding, dong, ding. Ding, dong, ding.



My Little Brother

My little brother, my little brother
My little brother, my little brother
Are you still asleep, are you still asleep?
I'll play for you, I'll play for you
I'll play for you, I'll play for you
Ding, dong, ding. Ding, dong, ding.







Gaal gaa ngi Si reewmi / Dindinjolu (Wolof / Mandinka)



Gaal gaa ngi Si reewmi / Dindinjolu



Gaal gaa ngi si reewmi
Gaal gaa ngi si reewmi
Ëllëg si suba teel
Ñu ngi dem janga



Dindinjolu dindinjolu
Saama soomanda
Mbe taa karanjola.

The boat is in the country/Children

The boat is in the country
The boat is in the country
Early tomorrow morning
We are going to learn.

Children, children
Early in the morning
We are all going to learn.





Ninkinankoo

Dawda Sanneh

Dawda Sanneh, kuloo butay
Kuloo butay, n'te benn donna
Ninkinankoo, binoo baa la
Bari binoo baa la, n'te moo soo la
Mmm, yeh
Hey, ee-ya woh ayy yeh, ee-ya
woh hey yeh.

Dawda Sanneh (David Sanneh)

Dawda Sanneh, beat the drum
When you beat the drum, I will
dance
A dragon with horns
But they will not pierce you
Mmm, yeh
Hey, ee-ya woh ayy yeh, ee-ya
woh hey yeh.



Saliya (Mandinka)

Saliya

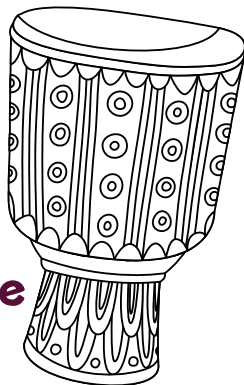
Saliya! Na-woh, Saliya!
Kora bato be kumala
Na ne fa woh, Saliya!
Junjun bato be kumala
Na ne fa woh, Saliya!

Saliya

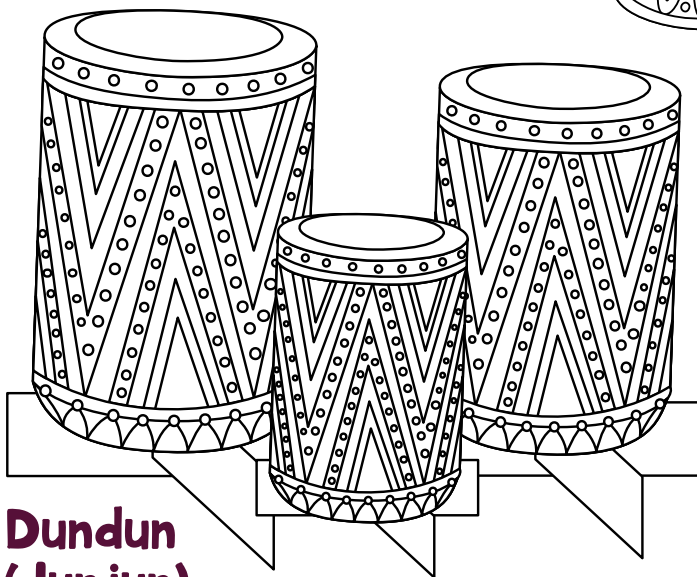
(The name of a person)

Saliya! Oh, Saliya!
The kora is speaking
Mother and father oh, Saliya!
The *Junjun are speaking
Mother and father, oh, Saliya!

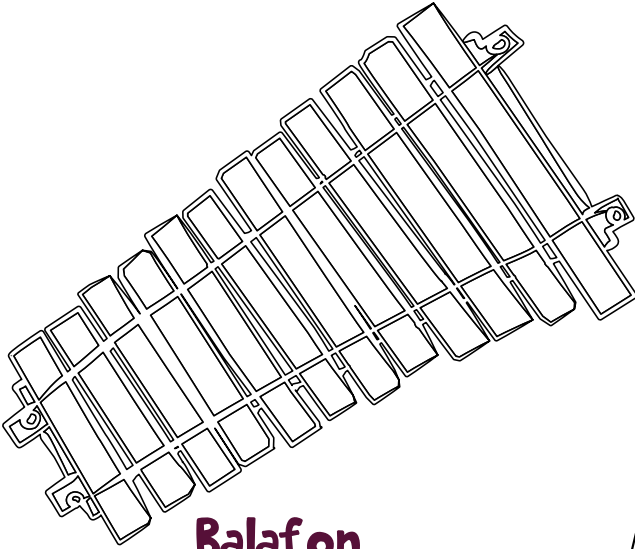
*A set of three bass drums,
accompanied by djembes



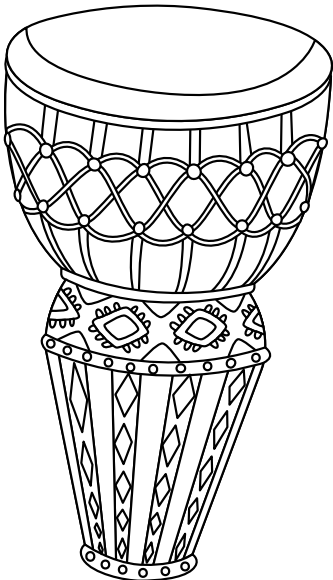
Djembe



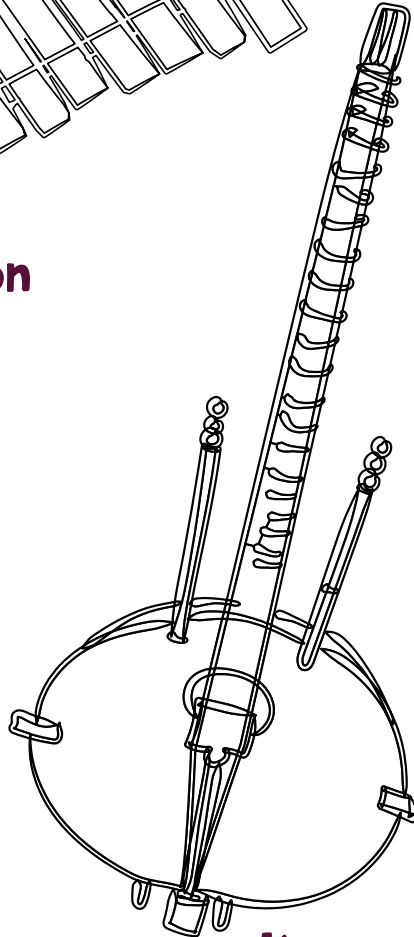
**Dundun
(Junjun)**



Balafon



Djembe



Kora



Bayna (Jola)



Bayna

Bayna oh, oh ye baynaa
Bayna oh ye Bayna
Bayna sile be ñaŋkatarŋ
Bayna sile be duuranŋ
Bayna sile ba leeboo
Bayna oh oh, oh ye bayna, ey duhuranŋ.

Bayna (a name)

Bayna, oh, oh yeah, Bayna
Bayna, oh yeah, Bayna
Bayna cooks rice and peanuts
Bayna cooks groundnut soup
Bayna cooks rice and oil
Bayna oh oh, oh yeah Bayna, groundnut soup.



The Wheels on the Bus

(English)

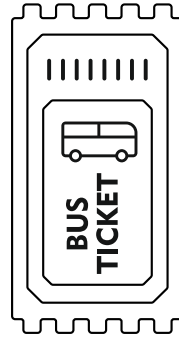


The Wheels on the bus

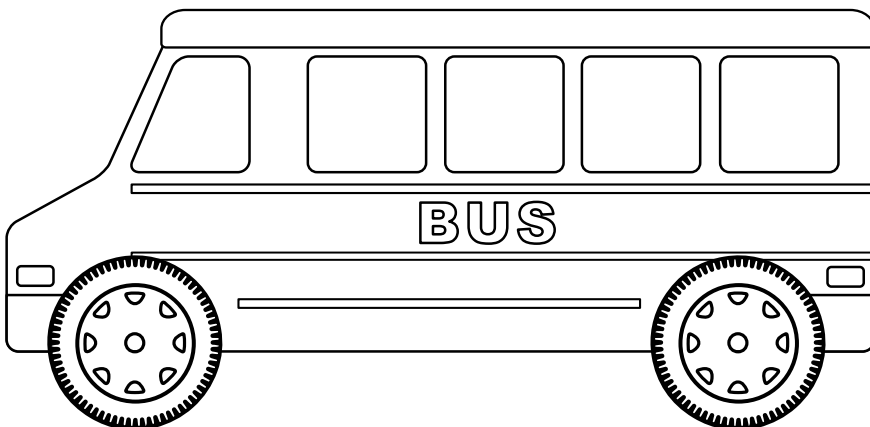
The wheels on the bus go round and round
Round and round, round and round
The wheels on the bus go round and round
All day long. (Move arms in circular motion).

The doors on the bus go open and shut
Open and shut, open and shut
The doors on the bus go open and shut
All day long (Hands apart and bring together).

The bell on the bus goes ding-ding-ding
Ding, ding, ding. Ding, ding, ding.
The bell on the bus goes ding-ding-ding
All day long (Pretend to ring a bell).



round and round



Down in the jungle

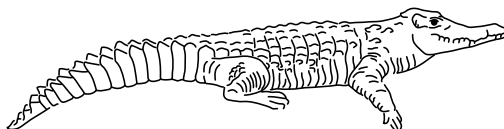
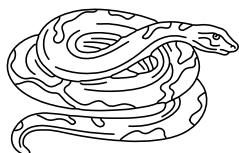
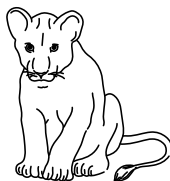
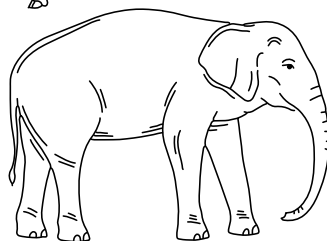
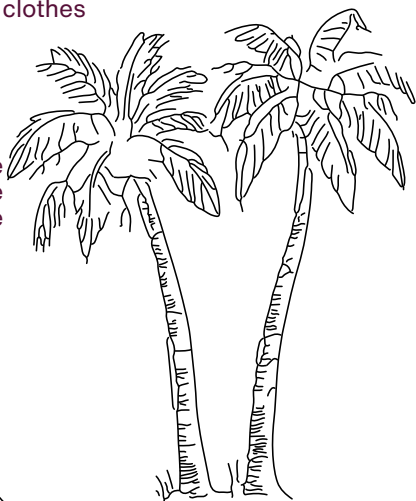
(English)

Down in the jungle

Down in the jungle where nobody goes
There's a little baby elephant washing their clothes
With a rub-a-dub here
And a rub-a-dub there
That's the way they wash their clothes

(Chorus)

Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie
Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie
Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie
That's the way they wash their clothes.



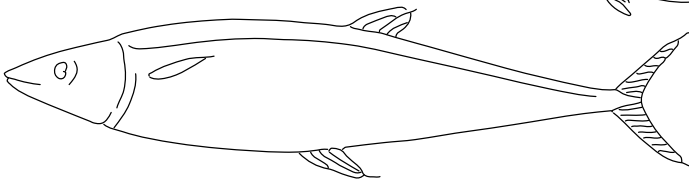
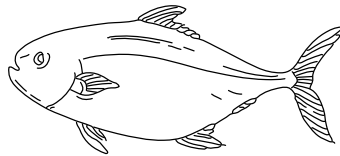
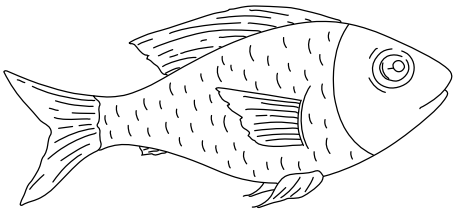
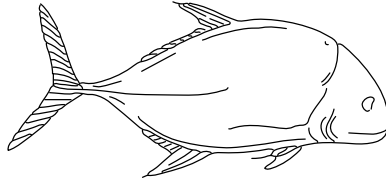
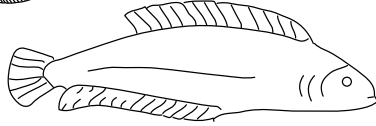
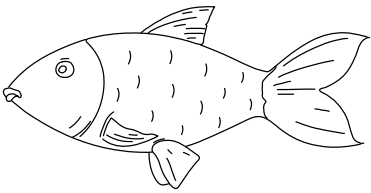
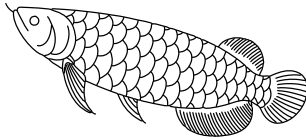
Once I caught a fish alive

(English)



Once I caught a fish alive

One, two, three, four, five
Once I caught a fish alive
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten
Then I let it go again
Why did you let it go?
Because it bit my finger so
Which finger did it bite?
This little finger on my right.





Row, row, row your boat

(English)



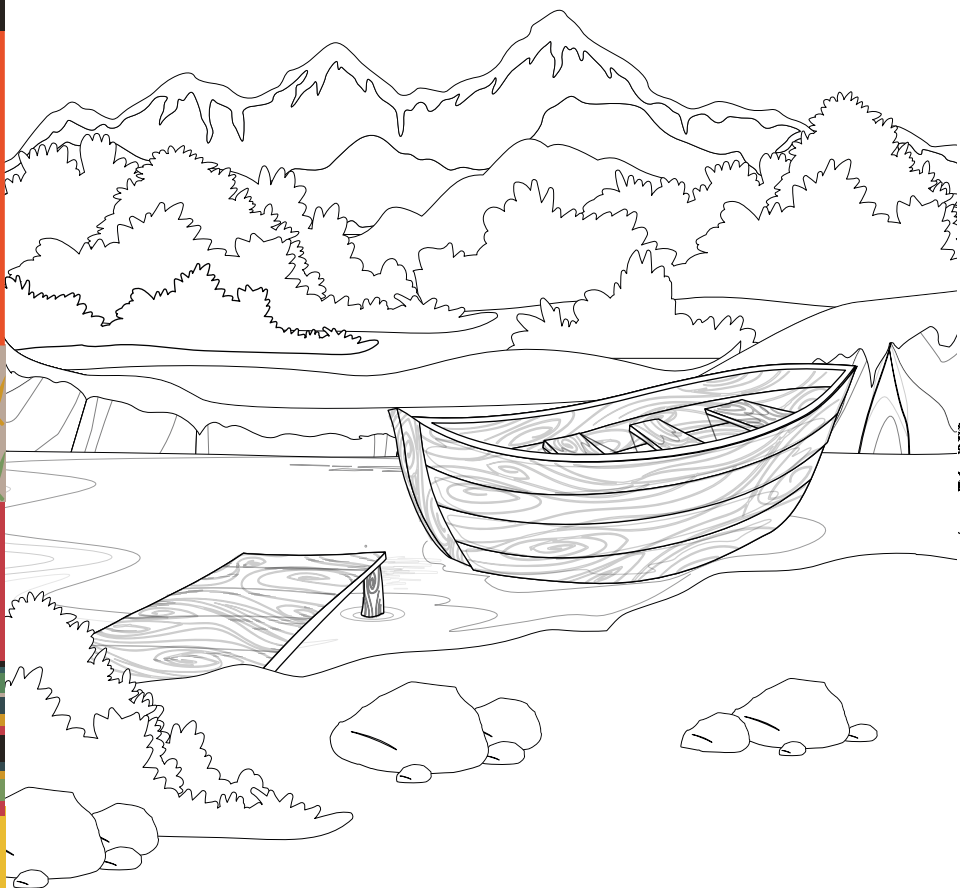
Row, row, row your boat

Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream
Merrily merrily, merrily, merrily
Life is but a dream.

row

row

row



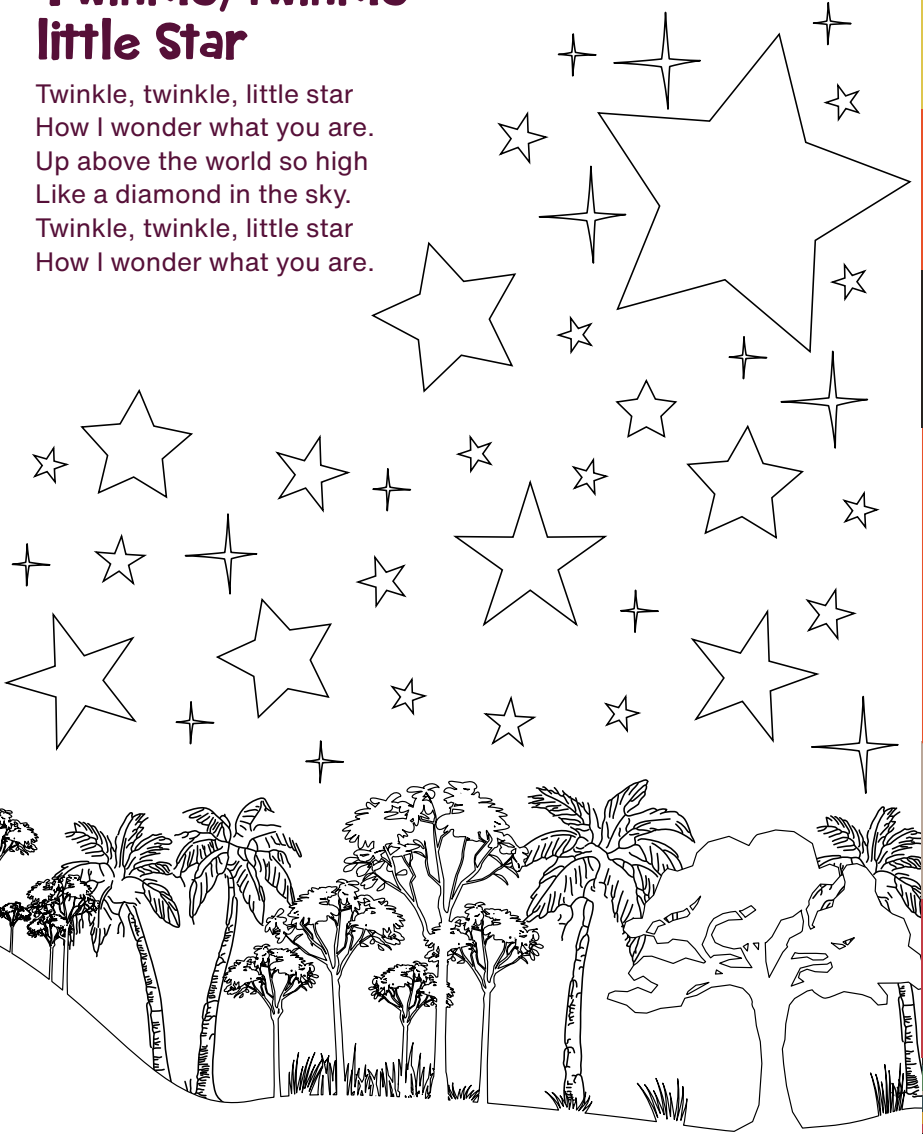
Twinkle twinkle little Star

(English)



Twinkle, twinkle little Star

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.





Project Donkilloo Laa

SONG SWAP & SHARE

A child-led singing and music-making project in The Gambia and the UK celebrating the much-loved songs that shape childhoods across the world.



Songs collected and curated by Jude Finlay and Musa Bah
Music composed by Pa Bobo Jobarteh and Jude Finlay



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