

Attention Grabbers

Hey Hey Hey, Listen Up, Listen Up

Have the leader yell "Hey Hey Hey, Listen Up, Listen Up" and then have the group repeat it back to the leader.

Hey Hey Hey Look at me, look at me

Have the leader yell "Hey hey hey look at me, look at me" Then have the group reply back "Hey hey hey, you, look at you!"

Clap

Have the leader yell "If you can hear me, clap twice" those that are listening will clap twice. Then yell again "If you can hear me, clap three times", then those that are listening will clap three times.

Match in the gas tank

Yell "Match in the Gas Tank" and have the group yell back as loud as they can "Boom Boom"

Countdown

Just start loudly counting backwards, "10, 9.....1, 0 Blast Off!" Everyone will join you by the last couple of numbers.

Hush

Shout "And Hush Fell Over The Crowd!" and the kids reply "HUSH!"

Campfire Cheers

GREAT (Tony the Tiger cheer)

Leader starts quietly starting with GRRR and goes around circle to complete word.

Watermelon

Take up watermelon in both hands, chomp up one way and spit out seeds, in a Bronx cheer. (For those of you who are purists, the proper terminology is a 'bi-labial fricative'.) Note: this cheer could be considered 'poor taste'.

Skyrocket

In pantomime, the group following the yell leader, plant imaginary rockets in the ground, light a match (on seat of their pants) and apply it to the rocket fuse. As the rocket rises, the group begins to whistle (softly at first and then louder) and after a short pause, all shout BANG!

Round of applause

You clap your hands while holding your arms straight and moving your hands around in a wide circular motion.

Timber cheer

When you point to one half of the group, they yell, CHIP !

When you point to the other half, they yell, CHOP!

Then alternate CHIP! CHOP! CHIP! CHOP! faster and faster, ending with a loud "TIMBER!"

Stomp and Slap

When you raise your right hand, everyone stomps feet rapidly. When you raise your left hand, everyone slaps thighs rapidly. When you raise both hands, everyone stomps and slaps.

Rain clap

Everyone starts by tapping their right thumbs on the palms of their left hands to represent the first few drops of rain. Then use two fingers, three fingers, four, five and the palms of hands. Increase volume of clapping from soft to loud. Then in reverse sequence back to thumbs on palms, as the rain passes.

Hanky approval

Drop hanky, applause only while hanky is in the air

Supersonic

Silently wave arms, open mouth as if cheering... wait several moments, then yell loudly...

Round of applause

Clap in a circle

Ketchup bottle

Slap back of other hand . spill sweat , 'Oh no! What a mess!'

Politician Applause

Pat your self on the back

Seal of approval

Put elbows together, clap, and Arf Arf Arf

Cheese applause

Grate, grate, grate...

Leaky tire applause

HISS...

Cookie

Crumbly, crumbly, crumbly...

Good Turn Cheer

Stand up, turn around, and sit back down.

Canned Laughter

Laugh when lid is removed from a can, and stop when lid is closed.

Doctor

Open mouth, stick out tongue, say Ahhhhhhhhh!

Slow Motion Applause

Cheer and applaud in slow motion.

The Uncoordinated Applause

Clap hands, but miss completely.

Almost

With hands far apart, bring them rapidly together but miss just before meeting each other.

Keys to Effective Song Leading

Choose the right song

- Use rowdy songs to gain a group's attention, or get a group excited.
- Use quiet songs after quiet activities, or as a transition.

Know the song

- Practice before leading a new song.
- Be confident, or know you can "wing it."
- Always sing from memory. It's better to screw up than bore everyone.

Get the group's attention

- Start with a yell or cheer.
- Use a repeat or action song you don't have to teach.
- Be energetic

Hankey approval

Drop hankey, applause only while hanky is in the air

Supersonic

Silently wave arms, open mouth as if cheering... wait several moments, then yell loudly...

Round of applause

Clap in a circle

Ketchup bottle

Slap back of other hand . *spills out* , 'Oh No! What a mess!' "

Politician Applause

Pat your self on the back

Seal of approval

Put elbows together, clap, and Arf Arf Arf

Cheese applause

Grate, grate, grate...

Leaky tire applause

HISS...

Cookie

Crumby, crumby, crumby...

Good Turn Cheer

Stand up, turn around, and sit back down.

Canned Laughter

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Open mouth, stick out tongue, say Ahhhhhhhhh!

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Sing

- Use a loud, controlled voice.
- Over-enunciate words.
- Be enthusiastic, it's contagious.
- Take a risk, act like a fool.
- Teach new songs before singing.
- Only introduce 1 or 2 new songs each time.
- Limit campfires to 90 minutes or less.

Recover

- Drink lots of water.
- Use a salt water gargle if you're throat's sore.

TIPS FOR THE SONG LEADER

A good song leader can make the tribal songfest a real treat. Children and parents respond to good music and appreciate someone who will help them sing well together. Try these ideas:

- Be enthusiastic; help members enjoy singing as they learn.
- Know the songs you are leading. Begin with one that most of the members know and enjoy.
- Sing along with the group and enjoy yourself.
- Give information about the background of the song.
- Make sure that the group hears the pitch. Don't start too high or too low.
- Give a firm starting signal and set and maintain the tempo of the song.
- Indicate when the group should sing loudly or softly and when to stop together!
- Use action songs when you want to provide movement and energetic involvement. Clapping, stamping feet, standing, and using hand motions all add zest to the occasion.
- Give clear, concise instructions for action songs. Repeat, if necessary, for better understanding.
- Use small, steady, rhythmic beats to guide the group. A broad, clear arm movement works best with large groups. Keeping the rhythm steady is a key to success.

Select songs appropriate for the meeting situation. Rousing choruses and action songs get parents and children off to a good start. Quiet songs have a great impact at campfires and tribal meetings just before the story or devotions. The following songs are a few suggestions, but try other songs that the tribe enjoys. Take time to prepare, and, if possible, attend a singing skills workshop.