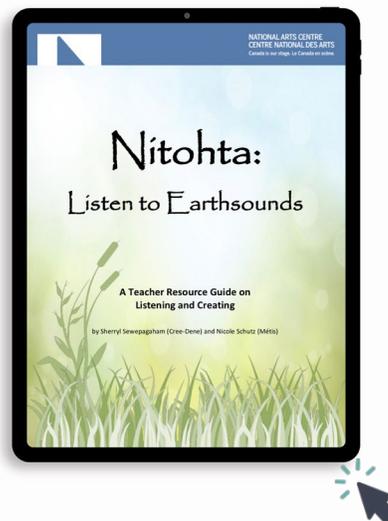


Michif Song Substitution: Singing, Listening, Language, Movement

Nicole Schutz

The following was presented by the author in the session NITOHTA (ni-toh-ta): LISTEN TO EARTHSOUNDS at Cascade 2018 © The original workshop notes for MICHIF SONG SUBSTITUTION are from the Cascade 2018 large conference book p. 323. Permission to reprint in *Ostinato* was given at the time of the workshop. Thank you, Nicole Schutz.

The Michif language is an Indigenous language of the Métis people of Canada. Michif is a blend of many languages such as French, Cree and Saukteaux. It was created in the 1700s when French-Canadian fur trader men married First nation Women. Their children and grandchildren spoke a blended language and Michif became an important part of Métis culture. The Michif language almost died out as French and English became the prominent language in Canada; nevertheless, today there are around 1000 Métis people who still know how to speak Michif and the language is taught to children to help preserve it. Métis Michif speakers tell stories and sing songs to Métis children so they can listen to and speak in the language of their ancestors.



Nicole Schutz

NICOLE SCHUTZ

Nicole Schutz is Métis from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan currently living in Edmonton. She is a music specialist with Edmonton Public Schools and holds Level III Orff certification. Nicole presents and creates resources on Indigenous Perspectives in the Music classroom.

⋮ MICHIF SONG SUBSTITUTION VOCABULARY GUIDE

SONG	ENGLISH	MICHIF
<p>SONG #1 OLD MACDONALD</p> <p>Old MacDonald had a farm, E-I-E-I-O And on his farm he had (a)* _____, E-I-E-I-O With a _____ here, and a _____ there, Here a _____, there a _____. Everywhere a _____. Old MacDonald had a farm, E-I-E-I-O</p> <p><i>*Omit "a" when singing some of the Michif words to smooth out the phrase.</i></p>	<p>Cat Dog Cow Duck Horse Pig Chicken</p>	<p>aen shaa aen shyaaen enn vaash li kanaar zhwaal aen kwashoon la poul</p>
<p>SONG #2 HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES</p> <p>Head and shoulders, knees and toes, Knees and toes, Knees and toes. Head and shoulders, knees and toes, Eyes, ears, mouth and nose.</p>	<p>Head Shoulder Knee Toes Eye Ear Mouth Nose</p>	<p>tet l'ipool aen zhnoo lii zaartay zyeu zaray la boosh li nii</p>
<p>SONG #3 ONE, TWO, BUCKLE MY SHOE</p> <p>One, two, buckle my shoe Three, four, shut the door Five, six, pick up sticks Seven, eight, lay them straight Nine, ten, a big fat hen.</p>	<p>One Two Three Four Five Six Seven Eight Nine Ten</p>	<p>payek deu trwaa kaatr saenk sis set wit neuf jhis</p>

- ⋮ To hear the correct Michif word pronunciation scroll down to Indigenous Arts on [this site](#). The *Nitohta: Listen to Earthsounds* resource has Audio MP3 files for: **Michif counting to ten; Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes; Old MacDonald Had a Farm - Michif animal words.**