

# **Song: Let's Face the Music and Dance (1935)**

## **Songwriter: Irving Berlin**

***Brief Context:*** "Let's Face the Music and Dance" was written by Irving Berlin for the 1936 film *Follow the Fleet*. Fred Astaire plays a Navy sailor who tries to rekindle a romance with his former dance partner, played by Ginger Rogers. "Let's Face The Music And Dance" happens during a memorable scene in the film. Astaire uses the cautionary love song to woo Rogers into an elegant dance routine.

***Activity:*** Movement (lower body)

***What do you need?***

- Perfect Harmony "Let's Face the Music and Dance" video
- Activity sheet

***Suggested Seated Movement***

**Let's get those legs and feet moving! Follow me! (Lead the following movement while seated)**

- Tap Your Toes
- Move Feet Side to Side
- One Foot at a Time: Lift Heel

**Keep moving your feet throughout until you see a new movement prompt on the video!**



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# **Song: Cheek to Cheek (1935)**

## **Songwriter: Irving Berlin**

***Brief Context: "Cheek to Cheek" was written by Irving Berlin and featured in the Astaire-Rogers movie *Top Hat*. This was the second Berlin musical written for the popular pair of dancers. It describes the glorious feeling of dancing very close with a person you care for deeply.***

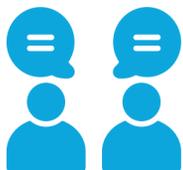
### ***Activity: Singing and Engaged Discussion***

#### ***What do you need?***

- **Perfect Harmony "Cheek to Cheek" video**
- **Lyric sheet**
- **Activity sheet**

#### ***Suggested Discussion Prompts***

- **When you were younger, would you use to go dancing?**
  - **Did you dance by yourself or with a partner?**
  - **Where did you dance?**



# **Song: The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing (1951)**

## **Songwriter: Irving Berlin**

***Brief Context:*** This dance number is from one of the most popular holiday films of all time, "White Christmas." Dance Magazine sets the scene: "In 'The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing,' Vera Ellen and Danny Kaye float their way through a lush scene of tropical plants and palm trees. The number starts as a romantic and wistful slow dance, the fabric of Ellen's chiffon dress swaying with her every move. But it soon evolves into much more complicated choreography: partnered turns, a daring dip, moments of playful syncopation mixed with traveling unison steps."

***Activity:*** Visual and Listening Experience with *optional* discussion

***What do you need?***

- "The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing" video clip
- Activity sheet

***Suggested Discussion Prompts***

**Many people have fond memories of watching holiday movies like, "White Christmas." This dance scene is one of the greatest moments in the movie! After watching Vera-Allen and Danny Kaye dance, ask your partner(s) these questions:**

- How did you feel watching them dance?
- What was your favorite part of this dance scene?
- Would you ever dance like this with a partner?



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# **Song: Shall We Dance from "The King and I" (1951)**

**Songwriters: Richard Rodgers &  
Oscar Hammerstein II**

***Brief Context:*** "Shall We Dance?" is from the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, *The King and I*. In this scene, the King of Siam has just hosted a successful dinner for a group of English diplomats and their wives. The King has a moment alone with his children's governess, Anna, who attempts to explain certain Western customs. Recalling what it's like for a girl at her first dance, she performs a polka (like a waltz), but then the King insists that she teach him to dance with her.

## ***Activity: Rhythm***

### ***What do you need?***

- **Perfect Harmony "Shall We Dance" video**
- **Activity sheet**

### ***Suggested Seated Movement***

**This song is a waltz, which means you'll feel the music in three beats. Our rhythm suggestions will help your partner feel the beat like the King of Siam.**

- **Clap "1 - 2 -3" with the leader of this video.**
- **Example: Shall we dance? (clap) 1 - (clap) 2 - (clap) 3**



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# **Song: Dancing Queen (1975)**

## **Musical Group: ABBA**

***Brief Context:*** ABBA's song "Dancing Queen" is arguably the world's first europop disco hit. Lead vocalist Agnetha Faltskog said this of the song: "It's often difficult to know what will be a hit. The exception was 'Dancing Queen.' We all knew it was going to be massive." The track details a young girl dancing and enjoying her young and carefree life.

***Activity:*** Movement (upper body)

***What do you need?***

- Perfect Harmony "Dancing Queen" video
- Activity sheet

***Suggested Seated Movement***

**Let's see all of our dancing queen's and king's moves!  
Sing along and follow me!**

- Shimmy (move shoulders up and down)
- Wave arms side to side
- Move along with the leader in this video, or improvise movement with your partner(s). Prompt your dancers
- to follow you or mimic the movements they create!

