

# Imagination

"Over the Rainbow"

"Imagine"

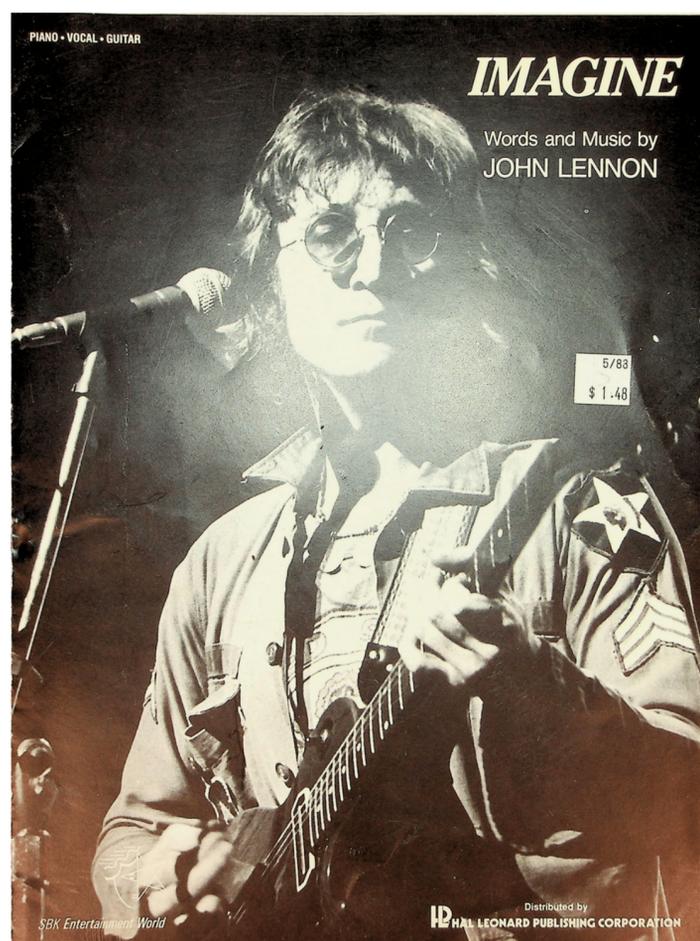
"Just My Imagination"

"Pure Imagination"

"A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes"

## A World of Pure Imagination

**Come with us and travel to a world of pure imagination. You're invited to explore your dreams and hopes with fun and playful music ranging from songs from classic musicals like *The Wizard of Oz* to the music of *The Temptations*.**



**Song: "Over the Rainbow" (1939)**  
**Songwriters: Harold Arlen and E.Y. "Yip" Harburg**

**Brief Context: "Over the Rainbow," with music by Harold Arlen and lyrics by E.Y. "Yip" Harburg, is the Academy-Award-winning song from the 1939 MGM film, *The Wizard of Oz*. Dorothy Gale, played by Judy Garland, sings this song on her family's farm in Kansas when longing for "some place where there isn't any trouble."**

**Activity: Singing**

**What do you need?**

- Perfect Harmony "Over the Rainbow" video
- Perfect Harmony "Over the Rainbow" lyrics

**Archives Artifact**

**Sheet music cover of "Over the Rainbow" from the Bob Grimes Collection, Songbook Library & Archives. The illustrations were drawn by Al Hirschfeld, the artist famous for his caricature portraits of celebrities.**



# Over the Rainbow

**Somewhere over the rainbow**

**Way up high**

**There's a land that I heard of**

**Once in a lullaby**

**Somewhere over the rainbow**

**Skies are blue**

**And the dreams that you dare to dream**

**Really do come true**

**Someday I'll wish upon a star**

**And wake up where the clouds are far behind me**

**Where troubles melt like lemon drops**

**Away above the chimney tops**

**That's where you'll find me**

**Somewhere over the rainbow**

**Bluebirds fly**

**Birds fly over the rainbow**

**Why then, oh, why can't I?**

**Somewhere over the rainbow**

**Bluebirds fly**

**Birds fly over the rainbow**

**Why then, oh, why can't I?**

**If happy little bluebirds fly**

**Beyond the rainbow**

**Why, oh why can't I?**

**Song: "Imagine" (1971)**  
**Songwriter: John Lennon**

***Brief Context:*** In John Lennon's song "Imagine," Lennon invites listeners to imagine a place where the things that divide us do not exist. Broadcast Music, Inc. named "Imagine" one of the 100 most performed songs of the 20th century. In 1999, it was ranked number 30 on the Recording Industry Association of America's list of the 365 "Songs of the Century", earned a GRAMMY Hall of Fame Award, and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's "500 Songs that Shaped Rock and Roll".

***Activity:*** Listening

***What do you need?***

- **Perfect Harmony "Imagine" video**

***Did you know?***

**The lyrics of "Imagine" were inspired by the 1964 book *Grapefruit* written by John Lennon's partner, Yoko Ono. The book is filled with instructions and drawings of what she hoped for in the world.**



**Song: "Just My Imagination" (1971)**  
**As performed by: The Temptations**

***Brief Context:*** The Temptations' "Just My Imagination (Running Away With Me)," reached No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 on April 3, 1971. The lyrics come from the point of view of a man looking out a window and watching a beautiful woman passing. He says to himself, "You're such a lucky guy / To have a girl like her is truly a dream come true." Almost immediately, though, he admits this isn't true at all. The girl isn't his. It was "Just my imagination running away with me."

***Activity:* Movement**

***What do you need?***

- **Perfect Harmony "Just My Imagination" video**

***Suggested Seated Movement***

**Follow Perfect Harmony leader Amy or create your own seated movement!**

**Use movements like . . .**

- **Sway left to right**
- **Slowly march in place**
- **Snap your fingers to the beat**



**Song: "Pure Imagination" (1971)**  
**Songwriters: Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley**

***Brief Context:*** "Pure Imagination" was written in 1971 by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley for the movie *Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory*, where it was sung by Gene Wilder as Willy Wonka. Since its release, the song has been covered and remixed hundreds of times by a wide variety of artists.

***Activity:* Singing & Engaged Discussion**

***What do you need?***

- Perfect Harmony "Pure Imagination" video

***Suggested discussion prompt***

This song was featured in the movie *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* starring Gene Wilder. In this scene, Willy Wonka introduces his guests to his imaginative chocolate room where everything is a sweet treat and ready to eat!

Can you imagine a room full of your favorite candy or dessert? What favorite candy or dessert would you put in your imagination room?

- Hershey's Kisses
- Reese's Peanut Butter Cups
- Skittles
- Apple Pie
- Chocolate Chip Cookies



# Pure Imagination

**Come with me and you'll be  
In a world of pure imagination  
Take a look and you'll see  
Into your imagination**

**We'll begin with a spin  
Traveling in the world of my creation  
What we'll see will defy explanation**

**If you want to view paradise  
Simply look around and view it  
Anything you want to, do it  
Want to change the world?  
There's nothing to it**

**There is no life I know  
To compare with pure imagination  
Living there, you'll be free  
If you truly wish to be**

**If you want to view paradise  
Simply look around and view it  
Anything you want to, do it  
Want to change the world?  
There's nothing to it**

**There is no life I know  
To compare with pure imagination  
Living there, you'll be free  
If you truly wish to be**

**Song: "A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes" (1950)  
*from the Disney movie Cinderella***

***Brief Context:*** "A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes" was written and composed by Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston for the 1950 Walt Disney film *Cinderella*. It finds Cinderella, as voiced by Ilene Woods, encouraging her animal friends to never stop wishing and dreaming.

***Activity:*** Listening

***What do you need?***

- **Perfect Harmony "A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes" video**

***Archives Artifact***

**Speaking of Disney, *The Music Man* creator Meredith Willson and his wife, Rini, received golden tickets to the Grand Opening Dedication Ceremony and "passports" to enjoy exclusive access to events in the Magic Kingdom. These materials are housed in the Songbook Library & Archives.**

