

# Guiro



# Guiro

*By M. Speranza and D. Ondishko*

*Tune – Jingle Bells*

*BBCD#4, Track #51*

*The song below will help children remember the name of the instrument, how to play it, and will give them practice with direction and orientation!*

*The guiro (gwē'-rō) is a Latin American instrument. When you introduce the guiro, compare it to a fish, pointing to the opening (curved slit) on the front as its “mouth” and the curved back part as its “tail.” The preferred way to hold the guiro is to place the thumb and middle finger in the holes and balance the guiro on the rest of the hand and wrist if necessary. However, very young children can hold it by its “tail.” The other hand holds the little stick and scrapes it over the ridges. **If this stick is not with the guiro, children will be more apt to use the guiro incorrectly (it can look like a baseball bat to a 4-year-old!), so be sure to put the stick under a rubber band around the “tail” so that they stay together!** Note: If using the small colorful plastic guiros, change the term “wooden stick” to “plastic stick.”*

Scrape it out, scrape it in,

Scrape the guiro now.

Use the little wooden stick,

Tiana knows just how! *child's name*