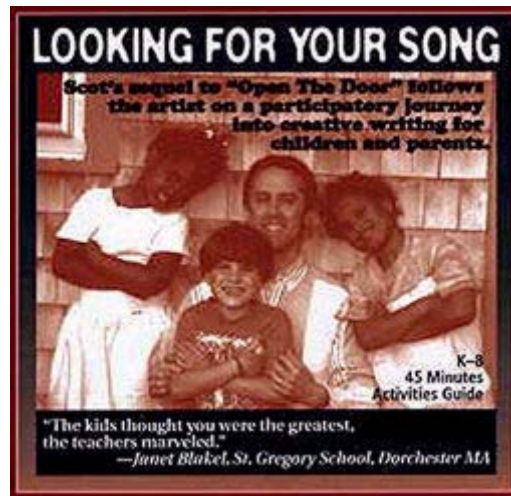


LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG

A creative writing primer for elementary school and family audiences



Written and Performed by Scot Cannon

LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG

A creative writing primer for elementary school and family audiences
by Scot Cannon

LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG is about writing and growing up and how writing helps you grow up.

LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG is a musical stage presentation that uses song, pantomime, monologue and audience participation to teach the importance of creative writing.

LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG uses writing as his outlet to deal with the peer pressure and self doubt of having a childhood speech problem. LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG shows how, why, and what Scot wrote.

LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG is not a creative writing lesson. It does not teach how to write a song. It is an irreverent look at what Scot did to find his song.

LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG is also a program for parents to learn and participate with their children. Everyone will try to learn the words and steps to The Popsicle Song, count the boxes of cereal in The Cereal Song; make up excuses for the Homework song, or try to get the signals right to order Burgers and Fries. The program concludes with several audience members on stage with Scot performing the song that they have chosen to be Scot's theme.

IT IS NOT IMPORTANT HOW LONG IT TAKES TO FIND YOUR SONG.
IT ONLY MATTERS THAT YOU ARE LOOKING. SCOT CANNON

For a complete study guide with classroom expanded activities, vocabulary and bibliography, Scot's complete guide can be found in the _____. It is hoped that you will make copies of the guide and conduct many of the activities with your class.

Scot would love to hear from your students. If you have any questions or comments about the performance, or if you would like to mail student packets, stories and letters to Scot, you can address mail to:

SCOT CANNON c/o
Baylin Artists Management
18 West State Street, Suite 203
Doylestown, PA 18901

LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG

by Scot Cannon

PRE-PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES

Teachers: Please use any of the following activities that you feel are appropriate for your class. Any of the activities can be done orally for the younger grades.

PASS THE STORY

Start this exercise by writing the first line of an original story on a piece of paper. Pass the paper around the room. Each student writes the next line to the story. Tell them to only look at the line preceding theirs. At the end, read the entire story out loud. You can also start with the last line of the story and work backwards.

FOOD POEM

Ask the students to write a two or four line poem about their favorite or least favorite food. Do both if there is time. Rhyme if possible. Read out loud.

THE CEREAL LIST

Have each student make a list of as many brand names of cereals that come to mind. Make a master list on the black board or on a hand out. Try to write a poem using just the cereal names. This can be done by each student individually, or as a class project.

SCHOOL BUS TALK

Talk a little about traveling on the school bus. Ask students to tell the funniest, scariest, or craziest thing that happened to them on the school bus. Find out where they like to sit and why? How long they have been riding the bus? Do they remember their first day? You can, of course, talk about safety and courtesy on the bus.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Talk about what students can do when they get angry. Use the Open the Door questionnaire (in this guide) if you like. Discuss how writing things down is a good way to sort things out: to see what you are feeling and start to work on solutions.

HOMEWORK

Make a list of the top ten most used excuses for late homework. Make a list of the ten worst excuses. Talk about what are good homework habits.

FROZEN TREATS

Discuss or make a list of all the frozen treats that students can think of. If you were to be a frozen treat, what would you be? Think up ideas of what you would love to see frozen on a stick.

MULTIPLICATION

Just in case I get to the multiplication song in the program, review the 2, 3, 4, and 5 tables.

JOURNAL WRITING

A journal is a record of your thoughts and activities. It can tell you who you are, what you know and where you are going to go. Discuss what a journal is and why it can be important. Start a class journal. At the end of each day, everyone decides what is important to remember about the day. At the end of the year, make a copy for each student. Students can design their own covers for the journal. Leave blank pages for autographs and personal notes for each student.

PANTOMIME GAMES - GRAPHICS

Graphics are inanimate objects and machines acted out by people.

Examples: ELEVATOR – Start with two children standing side by side as elevator doors. Have them move apart for a third child to enter, push the button and they come together.

 FORK – Stand straight, lift arms with elbows even with shoulders, lift hands up in “touchdown signal.” Keep elbows even with shoulders.

 BOWLING – three “pins” a ball and a bowler

 REFRIGERATOR – three walls, a door and somebody hungry

 TWO-WORD-MIMES – a form of charades. The only clue given is the letter. The charade must be identified using two words. Both words start with the same letter and the first word is always and “ing” verb followed by a noun: **B**ouncing **B**all, **D**oing **D**ishes, **M**aking **M**eatballs.

LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG

by Scot Cannon

POST-PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES

FOLLOW UP QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What cereal was Scot really looking for?
2. What did Scot bring on the bus in the second grade?
3. In the fourth grade, what did Scot forget to bring?
4. What happened to Scot's science project?
5. What did Scot's parents want him to do with them each day?
6. Scot's parents also told him to not _____ if he did something that was not right.
7. If not a POPSICLE or a TREE, Scot would rather be a _____.
8. You don't have to even eat burgers and fries. You can put them on your _____ & _____.
9. Why did Scot write so much?
10. If not doing homework, what would Scot rather be doing?

FOLLOW UP QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

1. Grapenuts
2. a Labrador
3. his lunch
4. eaten by a fly
5. walk and talk
6. lie
7. nectarine
8. heart and thighs
9. he had a speech problem
10. outside with friends, baseball, listening to music or walking with my fish

LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG

by Scot Cannon

OPEN THE DOOR Questionnaire

1. I sometimes get mad when my parents tell me to...
 2. I sometimes get mad when one of my teachers tell me to...
 3. What do you do when you are mad at your parents or teachers?
 4. You're carrying your lunch back to your table when someone bumps you and the lunch hits the floor. You're really mad! What would you do?
 5. All your friends are going to the mall. Your parents won't let you go. You're mad! What would you do?
 6. When you are mad, how do you get rid of your mad energy in a safe way?
- LOOKING FOR YOUR SONG

Looking For A Song
Songs

Just a few lines

THE BUS

you took my seat on the bus everyone knows that that's where it is how can you sit on the bus
look you don't even fit

the opposite song

$\text{♩} = 60$ 2/4 feel

All I really want to be is a pop side a pop side
I don't mind if I'm lemon or lime I'm just fine
if you keep me out of sunbathing

Great Song

BASS clef

Toasted oats + oats + cereal o's Just Right special K Almond delight
Trix Kix CRIS PIX + WETA Bix cinnamon kits puffed wheat AND

R/E

All Songs written by SCOT Cannon
Copyright 1997

A Full Song Book Can
BE ASKED FOR!