

Hee Na Nee Na

This traditional chant comes from the Native American Maidu tribe which lived in the Sierra Nevada mountains during the California Gold Era. Children would play a little game while singing the chant.

WHAT THEY LEARN

Traditional Native American chant, steady beat, taking turns, motor coordination

WHAT YOU NEED

- A small treasure such as a penny or marble

WHAT TO DO

- Introduce the chant to the students. Talk about its origins. Encourage the students to sing it with you.
- Hold a small treasure in one hand, covered by the other. Turn closed hands over, back and forth while singing the chant. At the end separate hands into fists, and have the rest of the children guess which fist holds the treasure.
- Let children take turns trying to “trick” each other.

EXTENTION

Use this song as a way to break a tie on the playground or in any situation where two children want the same thing. The concrete results are easier to understand for children who gets the next turn.

LYRICS

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