

Still This Love Goes On

The 2023 CLEL Bell Award Book for SING

by Buffy Sainte-Marie, illustrated by Julie Flett
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Open your heart to singing throughout your life with this original song by Buffy Sainte-Marie, a Cree singer-songwriter. The beautiful illustrations and rhyming text celebrate the connection between people and the land. Singing is an important part of the oral language foundation upon which print literacies are built.

Activity Ideas for *Still This Love Goes On*:

- Invite your child to close their eyes as you each listen to the sounds in your home. See if you can identify where the sounds are coming from. Can you make a similar sound with your own voice? What other sounds or noises can you make? Join all the sounds together to make a silly sound song you can sing together. Visit other familiar places, and create a special song for each place. Create your own sound songs for home, the library, a grocery store check-out line, the front desk at a childcare center, the car or anywhere you frequent with your child. Paying attention to how sounds are similar and different enhances children's listening skills.
- Talk about the things your child did over the last year, naming a memory from each season. Ask them open-ended questions and add in rich vocabulary as you respond to their ideas and feelings. For instance, if they remember walking in the leaves, you can say, "Yes, we walked in the noisy brown leaves at the playground." This is a great opportunity to expand a child's vocabulary by using new, descriptive words in context. Children with larger vocabularies have an easier time understanding what they read.
- At the beginning of the story, little tracks are seen in the snow at winter. After reading the story together, explore different ways we can make our own marks:
 - Paint a child's foot or hand to make an artistic print on paper.
 - Explore what happens after we enter a wet spot with our car, feet, or mobility device.
 - Use toys to imprint designs into play sand, dough, flour, or the ground outside.Children absorb information about their world through play, and the more they play and interact with the world around them, the more background knowledge they'll have as a foundation for reading.

The CLEL Bell Picture Book Awards are given to books that provide excellent support of early literacy development in young children. For more information and for other activity sheets, visit <http://www.clel.org> and select the CLEL Bell Awards tab.



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