

Alligator

Name of Song or Rhyme

“The alligator is my friend”

Echo Song

First line of song or rhyme (text only)

Song type

Use a checkmark (✓) or “X” in appropriate boxes

Melodic	Melodic/Cultural Analysis	Rhythmic/Uses Analysis	Rhythmic
M1. CSP	A Source's Starting Pitch: A4	$\frac{4}{4}$	R1. Meter
M2. Scale	do hexachord, plagal		R2. Metronome
M3. Toneset	s, l, (d) r m f s l		R3. Note values
M4. Range	V - 6	☒ Outer:	R4. Upbeat
M5. Mel. Form	A B A C D E E ³ F	☐ Iso ☒ Hetero A B A B C C C D	R5. Rhy. Form
M6. Cadences	1 5 1 1 V 1 3 1	8 8 8 8½ 8 8 7¾ 8¼	R6. Beats/phrase
M7. Intervals	d↑s, (P4) d↑s (P5) s,↑m (M6)	☒ Iso ☒ Bi ☐ Tri ☐ Hetero ☐ Tetra ☐ Other:	R7. Podia
M8. Target Phrases	A: s-l-s-f-m-r-d B: s-l-s-l-s C: d-s,-d-s,-d D: d-s,-l,-s, E: m-d-r-d E ³ : s-m-f-m F: s,-d	A: B: C: D:	R8. Target Phrases
M9. M. Diffic.			R9. R. Diffic.
M10. Other			R10. Other
Cultural			Classroom Use
C1. Context	Camp song	<i>Actual Verses on Page 2</i> 4	U1. # of verses
C2. Ethnicity	American		U2. Improv.
C3. Geographic	United States		U3. Listening
C4. Source: Where did this version come from?	Aimee Pfitzner. “New Camp Songs”, <i>O For Tuna Orff</i> . May 19, 2016. https://ofortunaorff.blogspot.com/2016/05/new-camp-songs.html	<i>Additional Room on Page 2</i> See page 2	U4. Game Directions/ Movement
C5. Source info	☐ Primary ☒ Secondary ☐ Tertiary	Echo singing	U5. Ped. Uses
C6. Research Notes	<i>Additional Room on Page 2</i> See page 2		U6. Roles
C7. Holiday		Animals	U7. Themes

Leader: Group:

The al - li - ga - tor is my friend. The al - li - ga - tor is my friend.

And he can be yours, too. And he can be yours, too.

If on - ly you would un - derstand, If on - ly you would un - derstand,

That he's got feel-ings, too. That he's got feel-ings, too.

p Al - li - ga - tor. Al - li - ga - tor.

mf Al - li - ga - tor! Al - li - ga - tor!

ff Al - li - ga - tor!!! Al - li - ga - tor!!!

Can be your friend, can be your friend, can be your friend, too.

Can be your friend, can be your friend, can be your friend, too.

C6. Additional Research Notes

This is a traditional camp song. The earliest source I could find was *Pack 562 Song Book, Vol. 2*, dating back to 2000, but it surely is older than that. Given its use as a camp song, numerous variants exist. A video of a quite lively performance from Camp Tecumseh in Brookston, Indiana, can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IsEJ25oTBCc>

U1. Additional Verses

O for Tuna Orff:

1. The alligator is my friend, and he can be yours, too.
If only you would understand, that he's got feelings, too.
2. The alligator is my friend, he has a lovely face.
I'd rather have him as my friend than have him on my suitcase.
3. The alligator is my friend, he has a very lovely snoot.
I'd rather have him as my friend than wear him on my boot.
4. The alligator is my friend, he can be your friend, too.
I'd rather have him as my friend, than wear him as a shoe.

Camp Tecumseh, Brookston, Indiana, 2009:

1. The alligator is my friend, and he can be yours, too.
If only you would understand that he's got feelings, too.
2. The alligator is my friend, he loves to hug and smirch,
I'd rather have him as my friend than wear him as a skirt.
3. The alligator is my friend, and he can be yours, too.
I'd rather have him as my friend than wear him as a shoe.
4. The alligator is my friend, he has a scaly pelt.
I'd rather have him as my friend than wear him as a belt.

Pack 562 Song Book, Vol. 2:

1. The alligator is my friend, he can be your friend too.
I'd rather wear him on my shirt than wear him as my shoe.
2. The alligator laughs and sings, he never cries the blues.
If only you could understand that he has feelings too.
3. The alligator swims all day, he never stops to rest,
If only you could understand that he likes water best.

U4. Game/Dance/Movement Instructions

Chorus:

“Alligator”: Make small chopping motion with hands, next one bigger and hold fermata longer, third time hold fermata longer, add drama to action and biggest chopping motion.