

The Littlest Worm

Name of Song or Rhyme

"The littlest worm, (The littlest worm)"

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	G Source's Starting Pitch: G4	$\frac{2}{4}$	R1. Meter
M2. Scale	Major (with chromatic alterations)		R2. Metronome
M3. Toneset	(d) r r i m f f i s l t d'		R3. Note values
M4. Range	1 - 8	☐ Outer: ☐ Inner:	R4. Upbeat
M5. Mel. Form	A ³ A B C D E	☐ Iso ☒ Hetero	R5. Rhy. Form
M6. Cadences	3 1 2 3 6 1	A B B B C D	R6. Beats/phrase
M7. Intervals	r↑s (P4) d'↓s (P4) d↑l (M6)	4 4 4 4 8 8	R7. Podia
M8. Target Phrases	A ³ : s-fi-s-m A: m-ri-m-d B: m-r-d-r C: s-l-s-m D: s-l-t-d'-s-m-d-l E: l-t-l-s-f-m-r-d	☐ Iso ☒ Bi ☐ Tri ☒ Hetero ☒ Tetra ☐ Other: A: B: C: D:	R8. Target Phrases
M9. M. Diffic.			R9. R. Diffic.
M10. Other			R10. Other
Cultural			Classroom Use
C1. Context	Echo song	Actual Verses on Page 2	U1. # of verses
C2. Ethnicity	American		U2. Improv.
C3. Geographic	Ohio		U3. Listening
C4. Source: Where did this version come from?	Feierabend, J. M. (2003). <i>The Book of Echo Songs</i> (pp. 44-45). GIA Publications, Inc.	Additional Room on Page 2	U4. Game Directions/ Movement
C5. Source info	☐ Primary ☐ Secondary ☒ Tertiary	Echo-singing	U5. Ped. Uses
C6. Research Notes	Additional Room on Page 2 See page 2		U6. Roles
C7. Holiday		Animals	U7. Themes

Leader: Group:

The lit-tlest worm, The lit-tlest worm, I ev-er saw, I ev-er saw,
Was stuck in - side, Was stuck in - side, My so - da straw, My so - da straw,
The lit-tlest worm I ev - er saw,
Was stuck in - side my so - da straw.

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Stick Notation:

2/4

s f i f i s m

m r i m d

m r d r

s l s m

s l l t d' s m d l

l t l s f m r d

C6. Additional Research Notes

This is set to the melody of the song “Sucking Cider Through a Straw”. Though there is a minstrel song of the same name, published in 1894, there seems to exist an older version dating back to the 1870s. The text appears in the following newspapers: *Ohio Democrat*, Friday, July 03, 1874 (New Philadelphia, Ohio); and *Coshocton Democrat*, Tuesday, July 28, 1874 (Coshocton, Ohio). [<https://listserv.linguistlist.org/pipermail/ads-l/2005-March/047290.html>]

U1. Additional Verses

2. He said to me... “Don’t take a sip...
‘Cause if you do... You’ll really flip...”
3. I took a sip... And he went down...
Right through my pipes... He must have drowned...
4. And now he’s gone... And that’s the end...
He was my pal... He was my friend...

U4. Game/Dance/Movement Instructions