

HONORING TRADITIONS

These songs and activities will help students appreciate the cultural diversity of our nation and world and understand the common values and experiences all cultures share.

“We Love Our Children” *CD track 9*

“Eh-un-lan-weh-seh-un-lan” (Arabic greeting to a stranger) *CD track 17*

“Boker Tov” (Hebrew: “Good Morning”) *CD track 18*

“Dream of Harmony” *CD track 23*



I WILL BE YOUR FRIEND

Songs of Gratitude

Prayers of thanks are common in all religious traditions. The song “Boker Tov” is based on a Jewish prayer of thanksgiving. What are students thankful for in their own lives? What makes them grateful for each new day? Ask students to write new verses for “Boker Tov” expressing their personal sources of gratitude. Suggest that they keep their verses grounded in sensory experiences, as the songwriter did, and follow the pattern of his verse. Students may want to substitute “I taste” or “I smell” for “I hear/see/feel.”

I hear _____ .

I see _____ .

I feel _____ .

And I stop to say, “Thank you, I’m alive.”

Students can take turns reciting their verses of thanks, with the class joining in to sing the refrain.



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