

What is it?

A Squirble is a giant, multicoloured scrunchie made up of a variety of materials of different textures.



Benefits of using a Squirble/Scrunchie:

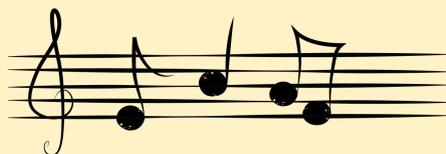
- provides an area for individuals to take 'centre stage' as you sing different parts of the song
- demonstrates tempo as you sing faster or slower and the squirble is passed through your hands as you sing
- encourages team work as children push and pull together, pass quickly or slowly, lift up and down
- encourages conversation as children describe colours, textures, feelings and more
- improvisation with songs you already sing



Centre Stage

Sometimes when you sing a song, individuals can take a lead part. Our warm up songs are great for this when children, (for each verse) take it in turns to be in the middle and choose and demonstrate an action as you sing. This also can be the same for playing instruments. Pass the squirble. When the music stops, whoever has the bells gets to play an instrument in the middle while the music plays. Or children can take it in turns in songs that name different instruments.

Tempo and Pulse



Row backwards and forwards to a steady pulse/beat. Pass the squirble slowly and quickly as you sing faster or slowly. Particular songs work well for this such as Slow Snails and Busy Bees and How many Legs? Wind the bobbin is great for this as you speed up singing the song.

Teamwork



As this is one continuous piece of material, this encourages working together. It can be used to form different shapes, walk together in a line, walk round in a circle or pass the material as you sit in a circle. Together, sitting or standing, the squirble can be lifted above your head and down to your feet, it can be passed slowly and quickly, bounced and wriggled and pushed out and pulled towards you. And great fun to all pull and let go on the count of 3 as it pings back into the middle to be put back in the back.

Colours and Textures

The great thing about your squirble is it stretches out wide and has lots of textures and colours. For older children, this is a great medium for encouraging discussion. There are some colours that are repeated so children can identify that they have the same.

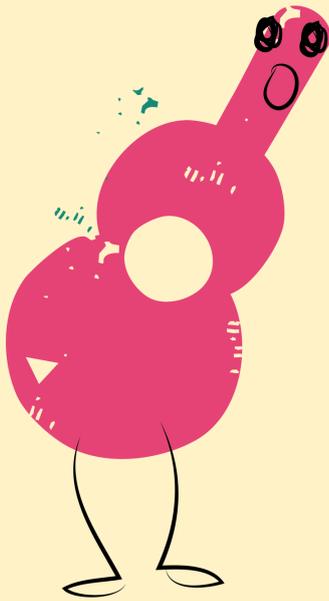
You can ask them to describe the material using colours and textures. Great words for this are:

Shiny, rough, bumpy, fizzy, gritty, hard, prickly, smooth, wrinkly, lumpy, rubbery, pretty, colourful, dark

Squirble Thesaurus

Sight	dim, clear, scary, beautiful, bright, sparkly, dark, hideous	
Smell	sour, sweet, flowery, tart, bitter, stinky, spicy, fruity	
Hear	gentle, buzzing, echo, yelling, booming, whispering, crunching, screech	
Touch	rough, fuzzy, smooth, sharp, slimy, scaly, cold, flaky	
Taste	crunchy, juicy, hard, cold, slimy, mushy, hard, chewy, spicy	
Large	big, colossal, enormous, gigantic, huge, massive, substantial, significant, tremendous,	
Small	diminutive, little, miniature, minute, petite, teeny, tiny, wee, slight	
Happy	content, satisfied, blissful, joyful, delighted, ecstatic, thrilled, glad, pleased	
Sad	miserable, gloomy, dejected, blue, unhappy, wretched, heartbroken	
Good	great, superior, fantastic, incredible, excellent, amazing, remarkable, wonderful, marvellous	
Bad	awful, terrible, horrible, outrageous, shameful, despicable, disgraceful	
Funny	hilarious, happy, gleeful, witty, giggly	

Songs to sing with the Squirble



TIP!

Try singing the songs acapella so that you can go at the pace of the children and also speed it up and slow it down.

Think of songs that have 'up and down' in them and 'round and round' and 'side to side'. It is all about team work and the children working together.

Wind the Bobbin



Track 25 (Sing Yourself a Smile) Pass the Squirble round, pull backwards and forwards and then left to the ceiling and floor and sway in direction of door and window. Change the speed singing faster and slower. Change direction, clockwise, anti clockwise, passing to the right or left.

Head Shoulders Knees and Toes



Track 13 (Sing and Play) Lift the Squirble altogether to the different parts of the body as you sing this song

Sleeping Bunnies



Track 11 (Sing and Play) Use the squirble to create a 'stage'. A small number of children can take it in turns to be in the middle for each verse. You could also put in different percussion instruments for each animal that the children play as they jump up and down. The squirble can be passed around slowly as the animals sleep and bounce up and down as they hop, cheep and leap.



Down in the Jungle



Single (Down in the Jungle) Pass the squirble round as you sing each verse. One or a small number of children can be in the centre with or without animal masks moving around inside the ring. The squirble can then be bounced and wriggled in the air for the chorus e.g “Stomp stomp boogie woogie woogie” “bounce bounce, wriggle in the air”

Incy Wincy Spider



Track 14 (Sing and Play) The squirble can help children to stay in a circle as they move round. Standing in a circle holding the squirble, walk round with the squirble and run into the middle with a ‘whoosh’, tiptoe round as the sun comes out holding up the the squirble and then either walk around again maybe changing direction or walk into the middle.

How Many legs?



Track 21 (Sing Yourself a Smile) This is a great song for singing and keeping to the beat. With older children you could have one or two in the middle moving around in the circle like the animal. You can also change the lyrics by introducing different animals with different numbers of legs.

Ring a ring a roses



Track 8 (Sing and Play) - pass the squirble round for the first verse, rock for picking up the daisies or leave this verse out. Dance away - pass the squirble round above heads and drop down. For older children you could ask a few children to go in the middle and act out the song, picking daises and falling down. Children love to be in the middle.

Grand Old Duke of York



Track 10 (Sing and Play) - Pass the squirble round and then lift up and down. This is great for changing the tempo and use of dynamics

Slow Snails and Busy Bees



Track 7 (Sing and Play) Again good for tempo, passing slowly and quickly.

The Happy Song



Track 27 (Sing Yourself a Smile) This is a great song if sung without backing and also for bigger children. One or two children stand in the circle and start off clapping while everyone else turns the squirble and sings. On the words ‘with me’ the children in the middle choose a friend to change places with and the new person or people choose one action to do in the middle while everyone else sings. This activity can also be done for some of the other warm up songs.

Additional Song to use with the squirble and bells inside



Pass the bells around the ring, jingle, jingle,
Pass the bells around the ring, who will pay the bells
Ava plays up high. Ava plays down low.
Ava plays the bells and stops. Ready steady go.



The song is to the tune of Camptown Races.



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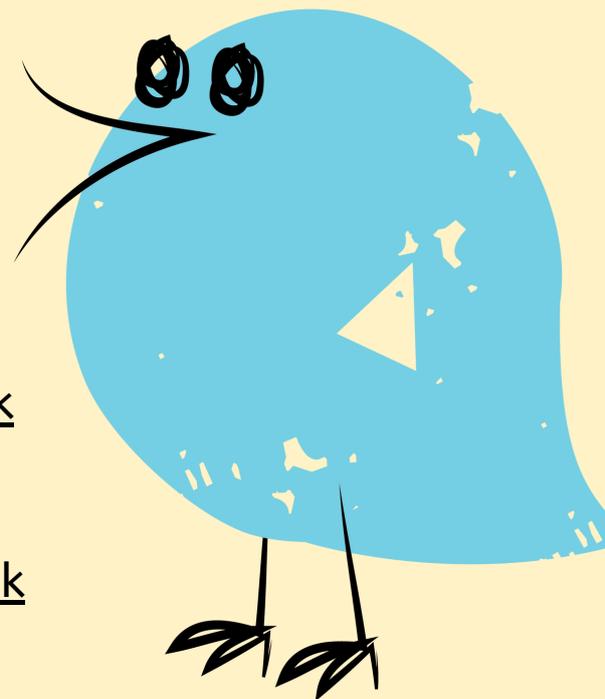
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