

Putumayo Kids Presents

# KIDS WORLD PLAYGROUND



## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to a fun musical journey around the globe! *Kids World Playground* is a magical musical passport that will help you explore many of the vibrant cultures of our world.

You can boogie to bouncing beats from Belgium, take a Kenyan musical safari, and dance to the lively sounds of Louisiana! Each song tells a colorful story that shares a part of the artist's culture with you. You'll hear instruments and melodies that might be new to you and discover how people from different places play and celebrate.

Listening to *Kids World Playground* is not just about having a great time—it's also a wonderful way to learn about the many cultures that make our world so special. You'll find that, even though people around the globe have many different languages and traditions, music is a common expression that brings us all together. Through these songs, you can learn new words and sounds and appreciate the beautiful diversity of our planet.

So, sing along, put on your dancing shoes, and let the music open your eyes and ears to the amazing world around us. Celebrate our similarities and differences and enjoy the fun of discovering new and exciting places—all from the comfort of your own home, car seat or classroom!



## 1. ANDRÉ BORBÉ \* *Le Tour du Monde*



André Borbé is a musician from Belgium, a country in Europe known for its yummy food (including chocolate, waffles, and French fries!), beautiful historic buildings, and colorful festivals. Belgium has three official languages—French, Flemish and German. If you visit Brussels, its biggest city, you will see famous landmarks like the Grand-Place, an old town square that looks like it's from a fairy tale, and the Atomium, a building shaped like a giant iron molecule!

André Borbé loves making music and writing books for kids. He sings and writes about everyday adventures, feelings, and the wonders of the world around us. On his song “Le Tour du Monde,” which means “The Around the World Tour” in French, André sings, “We should go around the world / To see if the earth is really round / Go around the world / Find someone who can answer us / Lend a hand to those who fall / Taste life every second.”



## 2. SEAMAN DAN \* *Three Little Birds*

Seaman Dan was a joyful singer from the Torres Strait Islands, a group of tropical islands between Australia and Papua New Guinea. He grew up surrounded by the rich culture of the Torres Strait Islanders, who are known for their love of music, dancing and storytelling. Seaman Dan's songs were inspired by the sea, his island home and the traditions of his people. Seaman Dan worked many jobs in his long life, including as a pearl diver and boat captain. He didn't record his first album until he was 70 years old! With his warm voice, he shared the spirit of the Torres Strait Islands with the world, making everyone smile.



This is Seaman Dan's version of the famous Bob Marley song "Three Little Birds," which reminds us that, when you are sad, things will get better. "Don't worry about a thing / 'Cause every little thing is gonna be alright."



## 3. NINA OGOT \* *Safari (Putumayo Version)*



Nina Ogot is a talented singer from Kenya, a beautiful country in East Africa known for its diverse cultures, amazing wildlife and striking landscapes. Kenya is home to lions, elephants, giraffes, rhinos and many other animals. About five million people live in the capital city of Nairobi.

Nina sings in English and Kiswahili, as well as in her native Dholuo, which is the language of the Luo people. Her music is a mix of traditional Kenyan sounds and modern rhythms, creating songs that celebrate her culture and heritage. She loves sharing the stories and traditions of Kenya through her joyful music.

"Safari" is a song that you might hear at a wedding in Kenya. Nina sings in Kiswahili, "I am unshaken, I am fearless / What lays ahead is nothing but happiness / A journey like ours is forever."



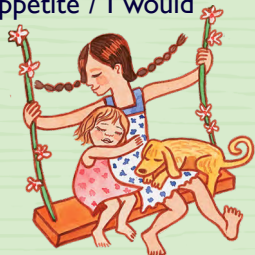
#### 4. ALLAN KASUK \* 37,5



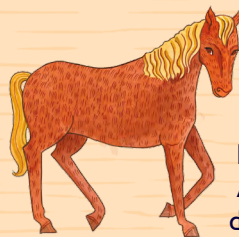
Allan Kasuk is a musician from Estonia, a small country in northern Europe. Visitors to Estonia can enjoy the historic capital city, Tallinn, the beautiful Lahemaa National Park with its forests and lakes, and the white sands of Parnu Beach. The country has many traditional folk songs, and, every five years, tens of thousands of people from around the country gather to sing together at the famous Estonian Song Festival.

Allan Kasuk makes fun, modern songs inspired by old Estonian folk tales and

his own life. In this song, he talks about having a temperature and feeling sick all over. "Today I would like to sleep in and take some time off / I have been to the kitchen, but I have no appetite / I would like to watch a movie, but my head is spinning."



#### 5. MARU JOTA \* *Baila Sola*



Maru Jota is a singer from Argentina, a large country in South America. The landscape includes the high peaks of the Andes mountains and the vast grasslands of the Pampas, where Argentine cowboys, known as *gauchos*, roam. The biggest city is Buenos Aires. There you can find historic buildings, *tango* dancing, and awesome food like *empanadas*, pastries stuffed with meat and vegetables, and yummy *dulce de leche*, a sweet caramel sauce. Did you know that Argentina is home to the world's biggest dinosaur fossil? It was discovered in Patagonia, a wild region that attracts many visitors from around the world.

On this song, Maru Jota talks about a woman who sings and dances without worrying what others think. "Look at her / She dances by herself / Spinning, she flies free without thinking / Look at her, she sings, dances always like this / Without caring if someone is watching."



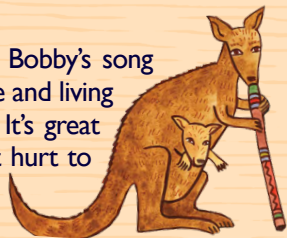
## 6. BOBBY ALU AND FOLOI IULIA \* *Fai Fai Malie*

Bobby Alu is an Australian singer and songwriter whose mother, Folojiulia, is from the country of Samoa. Bobby and his mother celebrate their Samoan heritage through music, teaching us the importance of family, culture, and staying connected to where we come from.



Samoa is a group of islands in the South Pacific Ocean, known for its natural beauty, strong cultural traditions and sense of community. The people of Samoa love to sing, dance, and tell stories that are passed down from generation to generation.

“Fai Fai Maile” is a Samoan-language version of Bobby’s song “Take It Slow,” which is all about taking your time and living in the moment. “Take your time, easy does it / It’s great sharing with my friends / Here we go, it doesn’t hurt to know / Believe it or not, it’s okay to take it slow.”



## 7. SABERTOOTH SWING \* *Le Chanson de Mardi Gras*

Sabertooth Swing is a fun band from New Orleans, Louisiana that mixes old-time jazz with Cajun and Creole music. *Cajun* is a term for the French-Acadian settlers who came to the area hundreds of years ago. *Creole* culture is the result of a blend of African, French, Spanish, and Caribbean traditions. New Orleans is a magical city full of lively music, tasty food, and colorful traditions. It also is the birthplace of jazz.



This song is originally from the Cajun and Creole communities of southwest Louisiana about 150 miles from New Orleans. Every year, the streets of towns and cities throughout Louisiana are filled with thousands of people dressed in colorful costumes who sing and dance for days and days during a festival called Mardi Gras. “La Chanson de Mardi Gras” is a traditional Cajun song sung during this celebration, as people go from house to house, asking for ingredients to make a big pot of gumbo, a spicy stew.

## 8. LOTTE WALDA \* *Stompin In The Rain*



Lotte Walda is a singer and songwriter from The Netherlands, a country in Europe that is known for windmills, tulips, painters like Rembrandt and Vincent Van Gogh, and lots and lots of bicycles! People in The Netherlands, which is also known as Holland, speak Dutch. They are very good at building canals and dams to keep the country from getting flooded, since much of it is below sea-level. Maybe you've heard the story of the little Dutch boy who sees a trickle of water running from a dike (a structure that

stops flooding) and sticks his finger into the hole all night long, saving the city from flooding.

Lotte often finds inspiration in nature and in this song she sings in English about a little girl happily strolling home from school, discovering how alive it makes her feel to splash in the puddles with her big rain boots. "Melodies in overflow my socks are soakin' wet / The puddle whispers go, go, go! / I'm lively up myself / With my feet stompin' in the rain.



## 9. SAFIC WITH GORKHALI TAKMA BAND \* *Sathi*

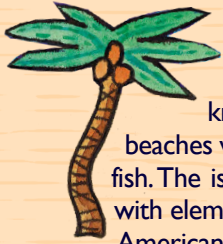
Safic and Gorkhali Takma Band are from Nepal, a beautiful country in Asia, located on the northern border of India, that is famous for its towering mountains and colorful culture. It is home to Mount Everest, the tallest mountain in the world and animal reserves where you can see tigers and one-horned rhinoceroses! People there speak many languages, but Nepali is the most common. The country is rich in traditions, with many festivals featuring music, dancing and delicious food. Many families in Nepal live in villages surrounded by nature, where they grow crops and welcome visitors to share in their beautiful land and culture.



Safic and Gorkhali Takma Band use instruments like the *madal* (a traditional drum) and *sarangi* (a string instrument) in their music. "Sathi," which means "friend" in Nepali, is a song about the fond memories and joy that having good friends brings to your life.

## 10. JEAN-JACQUES ROJER WITH JULIANA MARTINA

### *Den Hòf'i Shon Arei*



Jean-Jacques Rojer and Juliana Martina are from Curaçao, a sunny island in the Caribbean Sea with brightly colored houses and crystal-clear waters. It's known for its warm, friendly people and beautiful beaches where you can build sandcastles and swim with tropical fish. The island has a fascinating blend of cultures and languages, with elements of Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, African and Native American heritage all mixed together. This blend can be heard in

its music as well, in which drums with African roots play alongside European guitars and accordions.

“Den Hòf'i Shon Arei” means “In the Garden of Shon Arei” and the song refers to a character called Anansi the Spider, who is featured in folk tales from Africa that are popular across the Caribbean. “Children! Gather 'round / So we can listen to a tale of Shon Arei / Listen carefully and pay attention / So that we can enter his palace.”



## KIDS WORLD PLAYGROUND ARTIST MAP



**Executive Producer & Song Selection:** Dan Storper

**A&R & Liner Notes:** Jacob Edgar **Project Coordination:** Jocelyn Mailloux

**Design:** Lisa Gonzalez **Mastering:** Lane Gibson Recording & Mastering, Charlotte,VT

## CREDITS

**André Borbé** “Le Tour du Monde” (André Borbé) from the album *Tohu-Bohu* © & © 2009 André Borbé. Photo by Celine Chariot.

**Seaman Dan** “Tree Little Birds” (Bob Marley) from the album *A Caribbean Songbook* © 2014 Steady Steady Music © 1977 Fifty Six Hope Road Music Limited / Primary Wave/Blue Mountain. Photo by Karl Neuenfeldt.

**Nina Ogot** “Safari (Putumayo Version)” (Nina Ogot) from the album *Ukumbuke* © & © 2024 Nina Ogot. Photo courtesy of Nina Ogot.

**Allan Kasuk** “37,5” (Allan Kasuk) © & © 2023 Allan Kasuk. Photo courtesy of Allan Kasuk.

**Maru Jota** “Baila Sola” (Maru Jota) from the album *Literal* © & © 2021 Maru Jota. Photo by Martina Matteazzi.

**Bobby Alu and Foloi Iulia** “Fai Fai Malie” (Charles Wall) from the album *Take It Slow* © & © 2023 Bobby Alu. Photo by Katy Shearer.

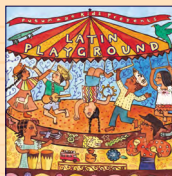
**Sabertooth Swing** “La Chanson de Mardi Gras” (Traditional) from the album *Delta Bound* © & © 2022 Fairground Records. Photo courtesy of Sabertooth Swing.

**Lotte Walda** “Stompin in the Rain” (Lotte Walda / Gino Bombirini) from the album *Dragonfly* © & © 2023 Let It Flow Records. Photo by Daniel van Hauten.

**Safic with Gorkhali Takma Band** “Sathi” (Atul Raj Neupane) from the album *Kathmandu* © & © 2022 Atul Raj Neupane. Photo courtesy of Safic.

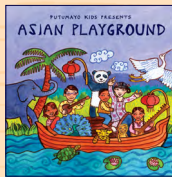
**Jean-Jacques Rojer feat. Juliana Martina** “Den Hof'i Shon Arei” (Javier Córdoba / Jean-Jacques Rojer) from the album *Ban Pas'un Ròndu* © & © 2022 Jean-Jacques Rojer. Photo courtesy of Jean-Jacques Rojer.

## PUTUMAYO KIDS DISCOGRAPHY



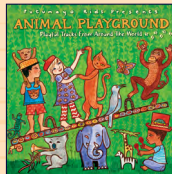
### Latin Playground

A fiesta of Latin American music for children and families.



### Asian Playground

A musical journey to the largest continent for fascinating sounds of India, China, Japan and beyond.



### Animal Playground

Take a walk on the wild side with this global musical journey into the animal kingdom.



### American Playground

This fun collection features classic American tunes that the whole family can sing along to.

To view Putumayo Kids CDs, album downloads, music videos and more, visit:  
[www.putumayo.com/kids-corner](http://www.putumayo.com/kids-corner)