

Singing Iko Iko

for creating your own backing vocals

Activities to try...

Can you improvise (make up!) singing some backing vocals to fit into the Mardi Gras song Iko Iko? This style of music is based on improvisation and call and response (echo) so many of the phrases can be echoed back, especially during the chorus.

Feeling Unsure? 😐

- Sing along with the video version of the backing vocals a few times until you feel more confident
- Get used to where you can echo phrases during the chorus
- Just stick to one phrase such as 'Hey Now' this could be sung or spoken

Feeling Confident? 😊

- Try adding more improvisations in the chorus, especially between the first and second line after 'Iko Iko Un-day'
- Can you find some nice harmony notes that fit with the melody line? Experiment with your voice and see what you think sounds good.

Feeling Very Confident? 😄

- Can you sing in harmony throughout the song?
- Are there other places you could add more improvisations? How about the gaps between verses?



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Lyrics

VERSE

My grandma and your grand-ma were sit-tin' by the fire
My grandma told your grand-ma "I'm gon-na set your flag on fire

CHORUS

Talk-in' 'bout, hey now hey now I-ko, I-ko, un-day
Jock-a-mo fee-no ai na-né, jock-a-mo fee na-né

VERSE

Look at my king all dressed in red I-ko, I-ko, un-day
I bet-cha five dol-lars he'll kill you dead, jock-a-mo fee na-né

CHORUS

Talk-in' 'bout, hey now hey now I-ko, I-ko, un-day
Jock-a-mo fee-no ai na-né, jock-a-mo fee na-né

VERSE

My flag boy and your flag boy were sit-tin' by the fire
My flag boy told your flag boy "I'm gon-na set your flag on fire"

CHORUS

Talk-in' 'bout, hey now hey now I-ko, I-ko, un-day
Jock-a-mo fee-no ai na-né, jock-a-mo fee na-né

VERSE

See that guy all dressed in green I-ko, I-ko, un-day
He's not a man, he's a lov-in' ma-chine jock-a mo fee na-né

CHORUS

Talk-in' 'bout, hey now hey now I-ko, I-ko, un-day
Jock-a-mo fee-no ai na-né, jock-a-mo fee na-né

OUTRO

Talk-in' 'bout, hey now hey now I-ko, I-ko, un-day
Jock-a-mo fee-no ai na-né, jock-a-mo fee na-né
Jock-a-mo fee-no ai na-né, jock-a-mo fee na-né

