Math Tunes

The Singing Math Teachers from Pasco County

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Presented at a Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics meeting. Songs appropriate for 5th grade have been graciously shared for inclusion on this CD.
What to do?

1. Pick a well-known tune or holiday song.

2. Choose a concept to be remembered. (Rules or steps)

3. Keep it simple. Keep it short!
Adding Fractions

(To the tune of “The Flintstones”)
By: Nielsen, Kotter, & Mooney

Fractions, adding fractions
Find a common denominator.
Change the numerator.
Multiply it by the same number.
Add the numerators together.
Keep the same denominator.
Simplify your answer.
Cancel any common factors.
Don’t be a slacker,
    And now you’ve done it right.
Find the Area

(To the tune “Clementine”)
By: Workshop participants

To find the area of a triangle
Take half the base times height
Put your label in square units
So your teacher marks it right
Don’t confuse this with perimeter
That’s the sum of all three sides
And the label isn’t square though
‘Cause we added, not multiplied.
Problem-Solving Strategies

(To the tune of “Frere Jacques”)
By: Jill Nielsen & Sheila Kotter

Problem solving
Strategies
Are here for you
Here’s what you do:
Draw a little picture
Make a list or graph put
diagrams in your plan.

Look for patterns
In the problems.
What the heck
Guess and Check.
Solve a simpler problem.
Did you try it backwards?
Do answers make sense?
They must make sense.
Adding Fractions II

(To the tune of “Alouette”)
By: Jill Nielsen & Sheila Kotter

Adding Fractions,
We are adding fractions,
Here’s the steps for what you have to do:
  You need the same denominator,
  Then you change the numerator,
  Multiply by the same number,
  Add the numerators,
  Keep the same denominator,
  Cancel common factors in the end to simplify.
Many Triangles

(To the tune of “John Jacob Jingle Himmer Schmidt”)  
By: Jill Nielsen & Sheila Kotter

Geometry has many triangles, all with three sides,  
If the sides and angles are congruent- that’s the same!  
Equilateral it’s named.

Geometry has many triangles, all with three sides,  
If it has two sides or more congruent – that’s the same!  
Isosceles is what it’s named.

Geometry has many triangles, all with three sides,  
If the measures of the sides are all different – not the same!  
Scalene is what it’s named.

Geometry has many triangles, three angles inside.  
Right angles are the measure you compare them to.  
And if they’re less, then it’s acute.

Geometry has many triangles, three angles inside.  
Right angles are the measure you compare them to.  
And if they’re more, then it’s obtuse.

Geometry has many triangles, three angles inside.  
Right angles are the measure you compare them to.  
And if it’s equal, then it’s right.
FCAT

(To the tune of “The Flintstones”)
By: Jill Nielsen

FCAT, we take the FCAT,
The Florida Sunshine Standards Test.
We’ll even write in math class,
It’s a different test from all the rest.

Reading, math, and writing are now here.
Science will come in future years.

When we get our scores back,
We sure hope that our grade is “A”
Then we will shout hooray!
Taking the FCAT!