

# This Land is Your Home Song

## Age/Grade Range

- Age 3-8

## Group Size

- Up to 30 Students

## Time

- Prep time: 15 minutes
- Activity: 10-15 minutes

## Materials

- This Land is Our Home Song Print out
- Pictures of the animals and land features in the song

## Set-Up

Clear a large space for students to gather in a large horseshoe formation.

## Delivery Tips

- Use to transition from any of the animal activities/games.
- It's useful if you do have a second presenter if one of you does the actions with the kids, and the other plays an instrument if they can.



NWT SCIENCE FOCUS

## Topics

- Ecology and Animals
- Animal Habitat

## Objective

- Help students understand that they are part of the ecosystem, along with all the other animals and plants that live here.
- Learn about animals they may not have heard of before, through song.





## Activity Directions

1. Gather around and ask the kids what other kinds of animals live around here, eventually prompting them to realize “us” (humans). Explain that the land is our home, and the home for snowshoe hare, lynx and birds. We need to learn how to share the land respectfully with the animals and plants around us.
2. Then you can introduce the song by talking about each of the four animals that are in it (have a picture of a ground squirrel, a peregrine falcon and a bowhead whale, because they may not have heard of these animals before).
3. Start by going through the chorus with them and show them the actions:
  - a. *“This land is your home”*: point to the ground, then to each other, then draw a little house in the air with your fingers;
  - b. *“This land is my home”*: same as above but point to self instead of others;
  - c. *“From the mountain valleys”*: make a V with your hands;
  - d. *“To the glacial ice dome”*: sweep your arm above your head in an arc;
  - e. *“To the taiga forest”*: use your thumb and index finger to show how little the trees are around here;
  - f. *“To the Arctic waters”*: make waves with one arm;
  - g. *“This land is home for you and me”*: point to the ground, then draw a little house in the air, then point outwards then to yourself.
4. Do the chorus slowly with them, explaining each of the land formations/areas that it’s talking about (again, it’s good to have pictures).
5. Then grab your guitar, if you have one and sing away!

The song is in the **Environmental Science in Song** booklet, by Jamie Bastedo

