



# Let's Create a **Song!**

**Where Words Paired with Music  
Can Change the World!**

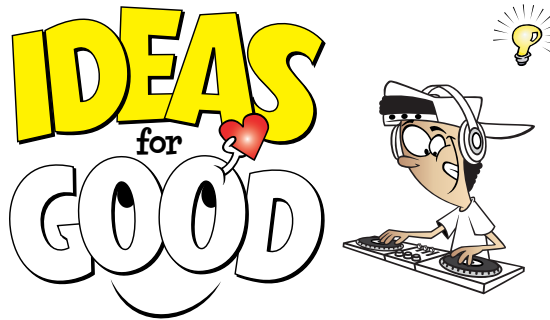


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## Announcing the...



## Songwriting Competition

Attention all teachers and students ready to rock the world and make a difference through their creativity and compassion.

This songwriting competition is your moment to shine and show the world what you're made of! Create a catchy and uplifting song celebrating the power of **curiosity**, **compassion**, **courage**, and the incredible potential of young entrepreneurs to change the world for the better.

**Curiosity + Compassion + Courage**  
**= Change the World**

Your musical masterpiece could become the next legendary theme song that inspires people everywhere to embrace kidpreneurship and make their communities a little more awesome!

The **top ten** teams will each win **\$1,000 CASH** for their schools!

Here's how to join this exciting opportunity:

1. **Round up** a team of 3-5 students (grades K-12) from your school.



- 2. Find** an incredible adult sponsor to mentor your crew.
- 3. Collaborate** like never before, letting your imaginations soar as you craft lyrics, compose melodies, and record your musical gem.
- 4. Fill out** the Entry Form at [www.wagilabs.org/guppytanks](http://www.wagilabs.org/guppytanks).
- 5. Submit** your song (up to 3 minutes) by **October 31, 2024**.  
Feel free to submit more than one song!
- 6. Submit** a music video and you get bonus points.

Not only will you have an unforgettable experience creating music with your friends, but you'll also have the chance to get feedback from a panel of real-life rock star musicians who will help you take your skills to the next level!

Plus, WAGiLabs will help the winning songs get the global attention they deserve, sharing your message of hope and innovation with people all around the planet.



So what are you waiting for, teachers and students? Let's show the world just how powerful kidpreneurship and music can be when they come together!



# Why Do We Write Songs?



As one musician recently said, “When talking just isn’t enough!” What makes a song different from talking? The music, of course!

When you put words to music, it’s easier for other people to connect with them! They can feel the beat in their bodies. They can hear your emotions when the notes and rhythms change.

Writing a song can be one of the best ways to tell a story about how you feel. Sometimes, singing makes it easier to share sad feelings. A song can also be a fantastic way to celebrate happy feelings.

Writing a song can also help you tell a story about something important to you. That’s just what you’re going to do at WAGiLabs!

## GOALS:

1. Write a song about celebrating the power of **curiosity**, **compassion**, **courage**, and the incredible potential of young entrepreneurs to change the world for the better.
2. Tell others about the superpowers of being a kidpreneur and creating ideas for good.
3. Help listeners get excited, so they want to get involved and improve their communities.

## The Lyrics Tell the Story

The words of a song are called lyrics. There are two big rules to follow when you write the lyrics of any song.

1. Good lyrics paint a picture for the listeners so they can see the people, places, and problems in the story.
2. Great lyrics also help listeners put themselves in your shoes and feel your emotions! Every songwriter's goal is to write lyrics that bring the story to life.

## **The Music Makes a Song More Memorable**

While the words of a song tell the story, the music can help set the mood and draw in listeners. Most important, the music allows others to remember the story because they can sing along.

Think of your favorite songs. Can you hum the melody for each one? Do the words and music stick in your head? Good music can make a song unforgettable!

### **Listen Up!**

A group of WAGiKids in Ghana wrote a song called “Everyday Wash” about healthy hand washing. The first part is sung in English, and the second is sung in Twi, one of the languages spoken in Ghana. Watch the kids from Ghana Cocoa 360 sing:



<https://tinyurl.com/everydaywash>

### **What Did You Hear?**

1. Can you hear the story in the lyrics?
2. Can you see the story in the video?
3. Can you feel the beat?
4. How does the music make you feel?

## Look at Lyrics

1. Circle your favorite lyrics. What message are they telling?
2. Circle words that repeat. What makes it memorable?
3. Circle words that rhyme.

Bath, bath, bath.  
Every day bath!  
Wash, wash, wash.  
Every day wash!  
Bath every day.  
Wash twice a day!  
Washroom, wash your hands.  
After playtime ends!  
Shake hands with friends.  
Stay happy, healthy, and **STRONG!**  
Bath, bath, bath.  
Every day bath!  
Wash, wash, wash.  
Every day wash!  
Bath every day.  
Wash twice a day!  
Washroom, wash your hands.  
After playtime ends!  
Shake hands with friends.  
Stay happy, healthy, and strong!  
Bath, bath, bath.  
Every day bath!

## Think Like a Detective...

1. What's the story in the song? Remember, one of the two rules of writing a song is that it tells a story. What story do you think the kids are trying to tell?
2. Why is it important to wash every day?
3. How do you think the “Everyday Wash” song will help people in the kids’ community? What will they do differently?
4. How do you think the kids from Ghana will feel if their song helps people in their community stay healthy?
5. Do you think this song can help kids and adults in communities outside of Ghana?

Here’s a roadside billboard the community created to promote the song. See the power of a billboard!!!





# The Four Parts of a Song

Songs including “Everyday Wash” consist of four parts: verses, a chorus, a bridge, and a coda.

You can choose some or all of these parts to tell your story.



## **VERSES:**

The verses of a song usually describe the situation or challenge and tell the details: “what, why, who, when, and where” of your story.

## **CHORUS:**

The chorus tells the main message of your story in such a catchy way, so people can’t help singing along.

## **BRIDGE:**

The bridge is usually halfway through the song and has the highest and most intense singing. It adds more meaning to your song before bringing the listener back to the chorus.

## **CODA/RAP:**

The word “coda” means tail or ending. The coda is a short, extra ending for a song. It’s a way to make sure listeners remember your message!

Now it’s time to write your song!



# WAGiMusic Songsheet

Music Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Song Title: \_\_\_\_\_

## Your Song's Challenge:

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## Key Words that Describe the Challenge:

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## Key Words that Describe Your Solution:

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## **Now Focus on Your Feelings!**

How do you want listeners to feel when they hear your song? List their emotions.

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## **Write Your Lyrics:**

If you choose a song first, play the music and write your words to match the rhythm and beat.

### **Verse 1:**

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## **Chorus 1:**

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## **Verse 2 (Optional):**

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## **Bridge (Optional):**

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### **Coda (Optional):**

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### **Now Come Up with a Title:**

Brainstorm five titles for your song. Is there a word or phrase that tells the whole message? Is there a line you really like, or one that repeats a lot? Write the potential song titles below.

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### **Compose Your Music:**

1. If you wrote your song lyrics first, write your music now.
2. Start singing your lyrics and make up the melody as you go.
3. Sing one line at a time or sing a whole section.

4. Tap the rhythm of the lyrics on a drum or table.
5. Then, begin singing notes that you think match.
6. If you have a keyboard, piano, or another instrument, use it to experiment with different melodies.
7. Be sure to use an audio recorder to record each melody you compose! Then you won't forget your tunes. You can listen and sing along to see which one you like best.

## **Edit Your Music:**

1. Come up with different melodies. Combine them. Keep parts you like and throw others out.
2. Keep experimenting until you have written music for each part of the song. Play it back. Sing along.
3. When you're done, CELEBRATE!!! Your song will raise awareness of your superpowers of being a kidpreneur.

## **Sing Your Music:**

1. Now open both your mouths AND your hearts and SING!
2. Record your singing so you can play it back.
3. Listen closely. Is everyone singing the right words and notes?
4. Does the rhythm feel right?
5. Practice your song until you know it and love it!

# WAGiMusic Video

When you tell your story using **pictures** and **songs**, you make it easier for people to see the challenge and your solution.

## Think Visually:

Imagine your song coming to life!

1. What are people doing in the first scene?
2. Where are they?
3. Are they holding things or using props?
4. How does the action change in the next scene?
5. How do the actors solve the challenge?
6. Write your ideas in the **Visual Worksheet**.

## Then Make a Storyboard:



Draw pictures to show what happens in each scene of your music video. Use your song lyrics to help you think of ideas. Write the matching song lyrics under each picture.

Finally, line up the pictures in order, to show your whole movie from the first scene to the last.

You can use the **WAGiStoryboard** on page 17.

# Visual Worksheet

SCENE LOCATION	ACTORS	ACTIONS	PROPS



# WagiStoryBoard



Title:

Date:

Description:

Action:

Dialog:

F/X:

Description:

Action:

Dialog:

F/X:

Description:

Action:

Dialog:

F/X:

Description:

Action:

Description:

Action:

Description:

Action:

## Film Your Video:

Use your storyboard to help you decide what to shoot. Be sure to record the scenes you drew on your sticky notes.

### Production Tips

- ☐ Record the audio many times in different ways; listen to and sing your song and listen to it until you know the words and rhythms by heart.
- ☐ Record each scene multiple times from different angles and in other ways; you might even want to record the same action in other places.
- ☐ Shoot more video than you think you need; you can always discard the clips you don't use.
- ☐ When you are done shooting your video, review your clips together, and save your favorites in a "BEST VIDEOS" folder.

## Edit Your Video:

Once you have selected the videos and added your song to the editing application, it's time to begin editing.

### Production Tips

- ☐ Line up each video clip with the audio that matches, so it feels like the actors are singing the song.
- ☐ Match the **rhythm of the action** to the **rhythm of your music**; match the **images in the video** with the **emotions of your song**.
- ☐ Combine the video clips. Choose pieces of the best videos and stitch them together. Some will be short, and some will be longer. Feel free to shorten clips and move them around until the flow seems perfect!

# Your Journal

Quietly reflect on your activities today. What did you discover about yourself? Write. Draw. Doodle.

# IDEAS for GOOD

## GuppyTanks



Empowering Kids to **"Make a Splash"** in their  
Communities and Meet Kids from Around the World!

# “Make Waves” and Change the World!



The **Global GuppyTank** is your ticket to an unforgettable adventure aboard the KidpreneurShip. This is your chance to unleash your creativity, transform your community, and make a real difference!

Every three months, WAGiLabs challenges you to dive into your imagination and develop groundbreaking solutions to real-world problems. You'll explore your passions, build empathy, and create ideas that will blow everyone away!

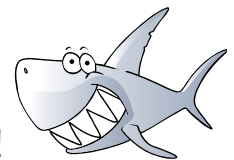


Your journey began in the **Sea of Curiosity**, where you discovered what drives your innovative spirit. Then you navigated the **Island of Compassion**, learned to see the world through the eyes of others, walked in their shoes and identified their needs.



You braved the **Ocean of Courage**, where no idea was too big or bold. You collaborated to refine your concepts, build jaw-dropping prototypes, and mastered the art of pitching.

The ultimate adventure now takes place at the **Global GuppyTank**, where you'll have three minutes to wow a panel of coaches - think friendly sharks, without the bite!



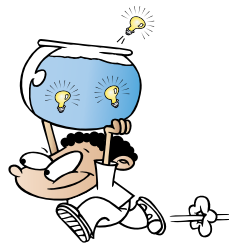
They'll ask tough questions, offer invaluable advice, and help you polish your ideas until they shine like diamonds.

The top teams can be awarded up to \$1,000 to turn their dreams into reality and make a lasting impact on their communities.

Get ready to embark on an adventure like no other – sign up for the next Global GuppyTank today!

[www.wagilabs.org/guppytanks](http://www.wagilabs.org/guppytanks)

# Create Your Own GuppyTank!



Along with entering the WAGiLabs quarterly **Global GuppyTanks**, we hope you create programs of your own. They'd be great for a school competition, a summer program, or an "Ideathon" over a weekend.

Here are examples of some fun challenge questions:

1. Write and perform an original song that celebrates being a kidpreneur and encourages others to make a positive difference in their communities. Share your inspiration and the message you hope to convey through your lyrics.



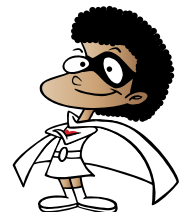
2. Imagine you won a \$1,000 grant to improve your community. How would you use the money to make a positive impact? Develop a detailed plan and explain how your idea would benefit others.



3. Design a creative Rube Goldberg contraption that tells the story of a specific challenge your community faces and demonstrates a potential solution. Explain each step of your contraption and how it relates to the problem and solution.



4. Create a superhero character who helps solve a problem in your community. Describe their unique powers and how they would use them for good. Develop a short comic or story that shows your superhero in action.



5. Design a toy or game that teaches other children the importance of kindness and helping others. Explain how

your creation encourages positive social interactions and promotes empathy.

6. Imagine you could organize a special event to bring your community together and foster a sense of unity. What would the event be, and how would it help people connect and build relationships? Describe the activities, food, and entertainment you would include.
7. Create a video message to teach other kids worldwide about a unique tradition or custom in your community. Share why this tradition is important and how it brings people together.
8. If you could plant a garden to help feed people in your community, what would you grow, and why? Design your ideal community garden, and explain how you would organize volunteers to help maintain it and distribute the produce to those in need.
9. Design a campaign to encourage your community to support local small businesses. Propose creative ideas for promoting these businesses and educating people about the importance of shopping locally.
10. Imagine you are tasked with creating a time capsule that represents your community's unique history, culture, and values. What items would you include, and why? How would you ensure that future generations learn from and appreciate the content?



# GuppyTank Checklist



## Preparation

- ☐ Schedule the event and reserve event space
- ☐ Promote the event and encourage participation
- ☐ Recruit judges (teachers, administrators, community)
- ☐ Prepare judging criteria and scoresheets
- ☐ Gather necessary equipment (microphones, timers, etc.)

## Student Preparation

- ☐ Introduce the GuppyTank concept to students
- ☐ Present the selected challenge question and explanation
- ☐ Discuss social issues related to the challenge
- ☐ Guide students in refining ideas and developing pitches
- ☐ Assist students in creating visual aids for their presentations
- ☐ Hold practice pitch sessions and provide feedback

## Event Day

- ☐ Set up the event space and test equipment
- ☐ Welcome students, judges, and audience members
- ☐ Introduce the event and explain the judging criteria
- ☐ Facilitate student pitches and manage time
- ☐ Encourage audience participation and questions
- ☐ Oversee the judging process and tally scores
- ☐ Announce winners and provide feedback to all participants

## Post-Event

- ☐ Debrief with students and gather feedback
- ☐ Discuss the next steps for implementing winning ideas
- ☐ Connect teams with resources to support their ideas
- ☐ Celebrate student participation and achievements
- ☐ Evaluate the event and make notes for future improvements
- ☐ Share the results and success stories with the community