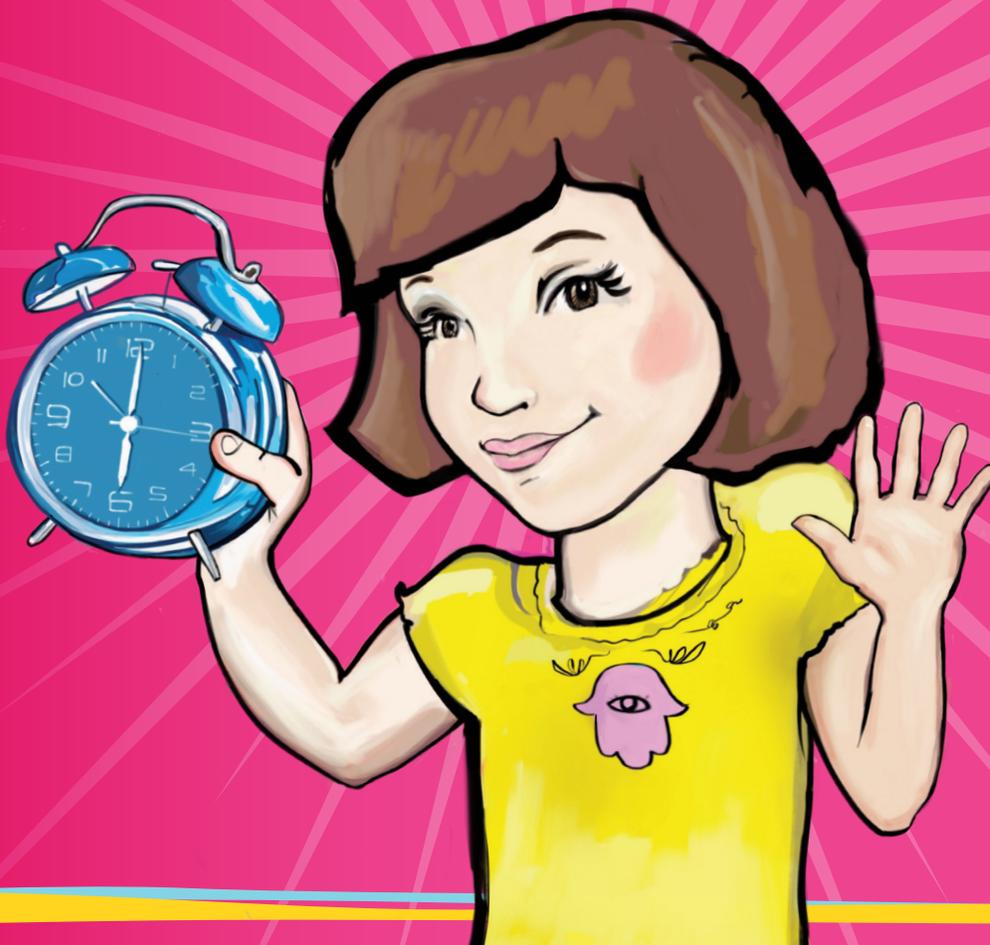


TEACHING GUIDE

Sarah Aroeste

Ora de Despertar

Original Ladino Songs
For Children



Welcome!

This PDF is to help make teaching the songs and themes on *Ora de Despertar* easy and fun! This guide is to be used in tandem with the album liner notes or songbook, where you will find complete Ladino lyrics and English translations.

Ladino, or Judeo-Spanish (some people even call it Judezmo!), is the language that Sephardic Jews (Jews who originated from Spain) spoke after they were expelled from Spain in 1492. At its core, Ladino is primarily 15th century Castilian Spanish. (Note that this is somewhat different than modern Spanish! Those of you who speak Spanish might find some of the pronunciations or spellings funny; that's just Ladino!) As the Jews dispersed (primarily across the Mediterranean and North Africa), they incorporated bits and pieces of languages from the countries where they eventually settled. So in addition to Castilian Spanish, Ladino also has a little French, Portuguese, Italian, Greek, Turkish, Arabic, Hebrew and more! You may even hear some of these other languages in the songs below. I encourage you to read and listen along with the English translations so you can point out some similarities and differences with other languages—it's fun! Learning to sing along with this album should be just that.

Track 1: Ora de despertar

This song is all about waking up in the morning! It's easy to act out the actions, from the birds singing in the first verse, stretching limbs in the next, then brushing teeth and tying shoes etc... Suggested emphasis is on the chorus, and teaching just the words "Ora de despertar." Those words repeat 4 times in each chorus - and there are 4 choruses. By the end of the song, little ones will be singing in Ladino!

Track 2: Las comidas

This song teaches both specific foods and associated mealtimes (breakfast- el dezayuno, lunch - la komida de la midi, dinner- la sena), but also times of the day (morning - la demanyana, noon- el medio dia, evening- la noche). Let youngsters call out some of their favorite foods, before you reveal the punch line (that dessert - dulce- is the best meal of the day!).

Track 3: Mi famiya

This song teaches the words for immediate family members and some basic pronouns. We know that families come in many shapes and sizes, so this song is only meant as an introduction to some basic words like son, daughter, children, mama and papa. Notice that in Ladino, like in Spanish, words change depending on gender (i.e. ijiko vs ijika). The 3rd verse we recommend using a finger to point to oneself for the word "yo," then pointing to someone next to you for the word "tu" and finally linking arms or hands for the word "mozotros."

Track 4: Saludos

This is a song to teach the many ways to greet people. Start off by asking kids how they like to say hello—we bet there are many ways, just like there are in Ladino! Some people might be surprised to see words in the chorus that look like modern Spanish or French—there are! Explain that Ladino incorporates bits and pieces of many languages (see introduction)—that's one of the things that make it so fun! The call-and-response of the choruses should have your kids singing hello in Ladino in no time.

Track 5: Kualo tienes?

This song, one of two lullabies in the collection, encourages kids to think about what helps them feel comforted when they are sad. Enjoy the quiet time with a child and assure them that they are not alone when they are feeling sad or confused. Kualo tienes, or “what’s wrong?”, repeats many times so they can hum along if they want...

Track 6: Las manos

Here is a song to learn about body parts and what they do! Starting from the top of the body and working down, have fun connecting the Ladino word with its English counterpart. Each verse is call-and-response, so with practice, kids can have fun repeating the lines with the music. Have fun acting out the various actions from head to toe!

Track 7: Kuantos animales

Have fun with my Ladino version of “Old MacDonald!” This song teaches basic numbers from 1-10. If you or your child speaks any Spanish, point out if there are any differences in how the numbers are pronounced (uno, dos, tres, kuarto, sinko, sesh, siete, ocho, mueve, diez). Also notice that some of the animal noises may sound a little different—anything goes in this song. Encourage your child to repeat the Ladino number and then make an animal noise that matches the animal. Easy!

Track 8: Si yo era el sielo

This song points out different elements in nature, from the stars in the sky to the ocean below. Ask your child what nature item he or she would like to be for a day and why. Let them repeat that word in Ladino (see translations). This song goes a little fast, but they can sing along with the birds and certainly the ‘la la la’s’!

Track 9: Komo vas a ser?

In this lullabye, a parent imagines what a child will be like when he or she grows up. Look at the chorus together and talk about what the 4 words at the end of each line (fuerte, alegre, buena, and amistoza) mean to him or her.

Track 10: La riza

This track is just an excuse to take time out to giggle!! No reason needed.

Track 11: Nochada buena

This is a song about not wanting to go to sleep at night because there are so many more things left to do while awake! There are lots of fun things to act out in this song—from jumping on a bed, to reading under the covers, looking for monsters, and more. The words “kero repozar la kavesa” (I want to lay my head down) repeat quite often—encourage your kids to sing along. Maybe something will sink in for them next time you’re trying to put them to bed!

These are just suggestions. The goal is simply to enjoy the music and have fun with it all! For additional resources to learn Ladino, feel free to email music@saraharoeste.com for more information.

www.saraharoeste.com

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