

## Agoo Amee

Developed by Kofi Dennis

*Engaging Children with Call and Response Experiences*

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### Objective/Goal:

This call and response can be used in different situations and for several purposes, including classroom management and gross motor coordination skill-building.

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### Educational Impact:

- ✓ Listening skills
  - ✓ Patterns
  - ✓ Sequencing
  - ✓ Following directions
  - ✓ Steady beat
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### Suggestions for use with *Songs for Singing and Learning* CDs:

- ✓ "Agoo Amee"

### Procedure and Process:

To introduce an engaging lesson based on "Agoo Amee," it is necessary to explain what it means to the children. *Agoo* is a West African word from Ghana that means "to pay attention, or listen." It is a call for attention. *Amee* is a response to *Agoo*. It means, "You have my attention."

Then say to the class:

*I am going to shout my Agoo so that you may shout your Amee.* [model this for the children]

*Next I will whisper my Agoo so that you may whisper your Amee.*

*Next I will sing my Agoo so that you may sing your Amee.*

You may wish to ask the children to suggest other ways to say "Agoo" and "Amee." If you shout "Agoo," you should expect the response, "Amee," to be shouted back. If you expect a whispered response, you should whisper your call.

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## Variation

The following variation of "Agoo Amee" is a wonderful example of gross motor coordination using a sequential pattern.

- Go through the "Agoo Amee" chant four times.
- Clap your hands four times.
- Cross your arms in front of your chest and tap your shoulders with your hands four times.
- Make two fists in front of your chest and pump or push them outward as you blow out four times.
- Hold both fists in front of your chest, with elbows extended out to the sides, and drop one shoulder (elbow now angling down) on one beat and then drop the other shoulder (first elbow goes up while this one goes down) on the next beat, repeating for four beats.
- Cup your hands in front of your waist like you're holding water in your palms. Move your hands out to your sides and up over your head to create a circle. At the bottom of the circle (with cupped hands), make a low ("Grandpa's voice") AHHHH sound, getting higher ("Baby's voice") as you raise your arms.

