

Hold your own Duck Sock Hop!

You don't have to leave the dancing to the ducks! If Duck Sock Hop makes you want to get up and dance, you're in luck. Holding your own sock hop is as easy as putting on some fabulous socks and starting your favorite music.

Here are 5 easy steps to holding your own Duck Sock Hop:

1. MAKE A BIG SOCK BOX

Find a good size cardboard box.

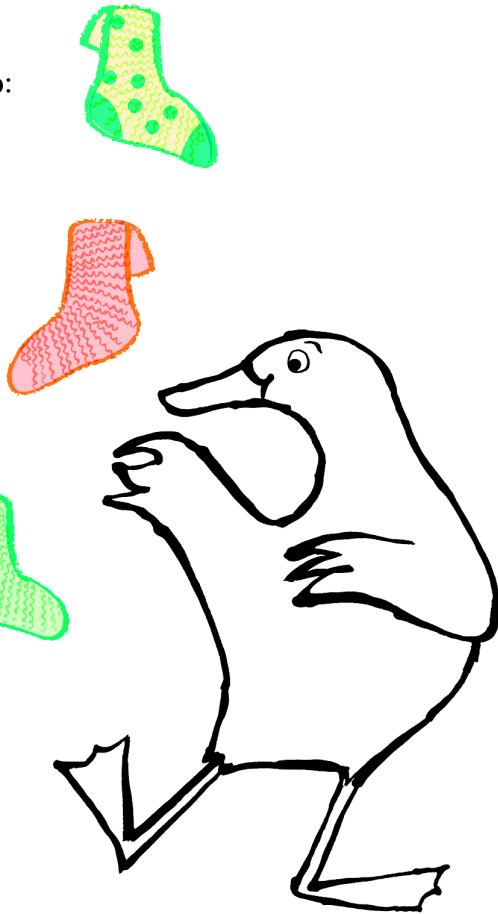
Cover it with bright wrapping paper.

Or cover it with white or brown craft paper, which your children or students can decorate with pictures of the craziest socks they can imagine.

You'll want to spread out the paper and decorate it before you tape it to the box.

2. FILL YOUR BOX WITH SOCKS

You probably have some super-fun socks in your drawers already. Throw them in! For inexpensive silly socks, you can also try discount stores. Or make your own crazy socks -- see the 'Add Some Art' sheet.



3. CHOOSE SOME DANCING TUNES

The 1950s was the classic era of the sock hop, and 50s rock & roll is great for dancing. But you can choose whatever kind of music you like. (The Ducks like a mash-up of rock and American folk, judging by their banjo.) Make a mix CD, an iPod playlist, or pull out your vintage record player and 45s! The kids will be fascinated.

4. GET WARMED UP

Read Duck Sock Hop aloud to set the mood. Then do some warm-up wiggling and beak stretching.

5. DANCE!

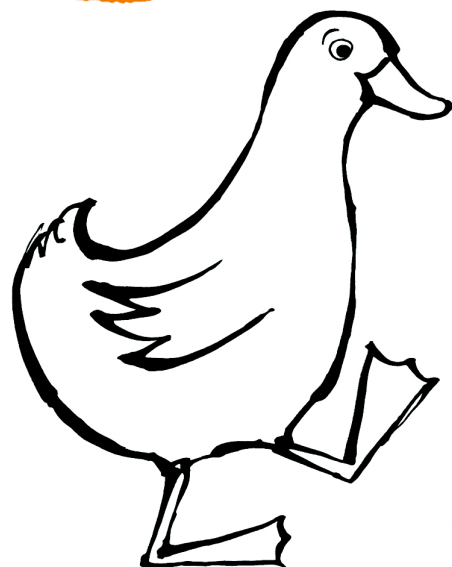
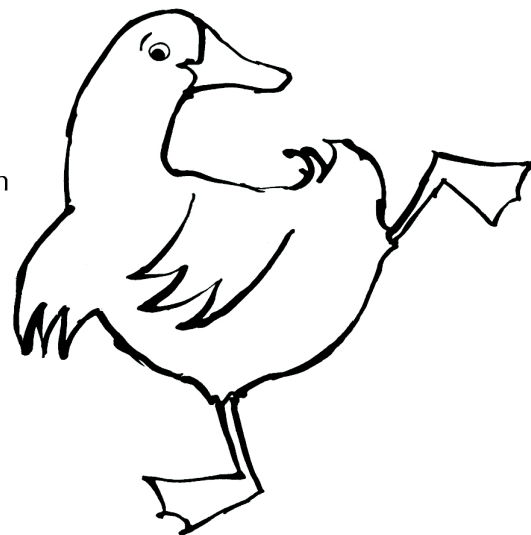
Put on the music. Start with a simple dance you can lead, like the Hokey Pokey, to get everyone moving. Then freestyle!



Why not color in the ducks on this page?

Make some Duck Sock art!

You might also want to do a craft as part of your sock hop. Why not make your own crazy socks? You can do this with the sock shapes included here, some glue, and lots of colorful and textured craft supplies for decorating. Or you can go for socks that can really be worn, by buying packs of inexpensive white socks and fabric paint. Brainstorm with your kids about interesting things that could go on socks. Encourage them to be as creative as they can!



artwork © Jane Porter, words © Jane Kohuth
Duck Sock Hop is published by Dial Books for Young Readers, a division of Penguin Young Readers Group

THE WIDER WORLD

Stories can help us see the ordinary things in our lives in a new light. When was the last time you stopped to appreciate your socks? Or your coat? Your Duck Sock Hop can also be an opportunity to talk about people who don't have warm fuzzy socks to dance in, or even enough warm clothes to wear every day. Why not make a second sock box and ask the people who attend the Duck Sock Hop to bring a pair of new socks to donate to an organization of your choice?