January 2003 Song of the Month from www.nancymusic.com

Gung Hay Fat Choy - Chinese New Year Song

(wishing you good fortune and happiness)

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Chinese New Year is a spring festival, celebrated during our winter. It follows the Chinese Lunar calendar, and falls between mid-January and mid-February. This year (2003) it begins February 1st. 2003 is the year of the Ram, or Sheep. The celebrations typically last for two weeks, although there are many different ways to celebrate.

Sing as a fingerplay with the simple hand motions, or pass out rhythm instruments and have children play on the chorus. Or you use as a circle dancing, holding hands and walking around on the chorus, and stopping to make hand motions on the verses.

Gung Hay Fat Choy - Chinese New Year Song

CHORUS:

(keep a rhythm patting hands together one hand up, then the other)

Gung Hay Fat Choy, Gung Hay Fat Choy Sing Happy New Year, Gung Hay Fat Choy

- 1. The new moon tells us, exactly when (hold up one hand in C shape for crescent moon)

 To celebrate with family and friends (clap hands in rhythm)
- Clean up the house and get out the broom (pretend to sweep)
 Sweep out the old year, bring in the new
- 3. Bring out the apples, the oranges too (hold out one fist, then the other)
 Their colors bring us joy and good luck too
- 4. The dragon dances, the lanterns light (place hands together, and snake around)

 The firecrackers light up the night (alternate right and left fist out with fingers opening quickly to mimic shooting fireworks).