

information. *Tales Alive* offers less information but is aimed directly at children. Both books will be popular with teachers. Note that Caduto and Bruchac remind us not to change the stories, reinventing different endings and so on, but to respect the structure of each tale as it stands, out of respect for its cultural origins. These stories can be enjoyed as they are for the gifts they tacitly offer as commentary on how to live on the earth.

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Raffi Songs to Read Only Partially Successful

Everything Grows. Music and lyrics Raffi. Photo-illus. Bruce McMillan. New York: Crown, 1993. Unpag. \$4.99 paper. ISBN 0-517-88098-9. *Like Me and You.* Music and lyrics Raffi and Debi Pike. Illus. Lillian Hoban. New York: Crown, 1994. Unpag. \$16.50 cloth. ISBN 0-517-59587-7. *Rise and Shine.* Music and lyrics by Raffi, Bonnie Simpson, and Bert Simpson. Illus. Eugenie Fernandes. Random House Canada, 1996. Unpag. \$19.95 cloth. ISBN 0-679-30819-9. *Tingalayo.* Music and lyrics by Raffi. Illus. Kate Duke. New York: Crown, 1993. Unpag. \$4.99 paper. ISBN 0-517-56926-4.

These four books are part of the Raffi Songs to Read series. The books take a single song and add illustrations appropriate to the lyrics. At the end of each book, the melody and chord symbols, along with the lyrics, are provided for musically literate parents and children. As stand-alone books, these are only partly successful. The melodies are not always easy to learn. For example, the rhythm in *Rise and Shine* is syncopated, which makes it tricky. *Everything Grows* is also more rhythmically difficult than most children's songs. This is, of course, less of a problem if the child and parent already know the tune. The lack of guitar tablature along with the chord symbols may pose difficulties for amateur guitarists who wish to play and sing the melodies.

The other problem with these books is that the lyrics are divided unevenly to link up with the illustrations. If there is only one phrase per illustration, you are forced to move quickly; if there are several phrases, you can linger, but the unevenness can be difficult for a child who wants to look at the pictures as well as sing the song.

Of the four books, *Rise and Shine* has the best illustrations. They are bright depictions of various regions of Canada. However, as mentioned above, the tune and rhythm are difficult to pick up. *Tingalayo's* catchy melody and charming illustrations make it the most successful blend. The other two books were nicely, but not memorably illustrated.

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