



ACTIVITY SHEET

The Lochmaben Harper

Lyrics

Oh heard ye o' a silly harper lived long
In Lochmaben toon?
How he did go tae fair England to steal
King Henry's wanton broon
But first he gaed tae his guidwife wi a'
The speed that he could thole
This task said he will never work
Without a mare who has a foal
Sing fadden dilly, fadden dilly, fadden
Dilly deedle dan

She said you have a guid grey mare
That'll run o'er the hills baith low and high
Gae tak the grey mare in yer hand and
Leave the foal at hame wi me
Then tak a halter in your hose, of your
Purpose dinna fail
But wap it o'er the wanton's nose and
Tie it tae the grey mare's tail
Sing fadden dilly, fadden dilly, fadden
Dilly deedle dan

Syne ca' them oot at yon back yet o'er
Moss and muir and ilka dale
And she'll ne'er let the wanton bite, til
She gets hame to her ain foal
So he is doon tae England gone o'er
Moss and muir and ilka dale
Until he's reached King Henry's yett
And o' his purpose not tae fail
Sing fadden dilly, fadden dilly, fadden
Dilly deedle dan

Come in come in you silly harper, o'
Your harpin' let me hear
Oh by my sooth then said the harper I'd
Rather hae stablin' for ma mare
So the king looked o'er his left shoulder,
Said unto his stable groom
Gae tak the silly auld harper's mare
And tie her 'side my wanton broon
Sing fadden dilly, fadden dilly, fadden
Dilly deedle dan

Then aye he harped and aye he carped
Til a' the lords gaed through the floor
They thought the music was sae sweet
That they forgot the stable door
An' aye he harped and he carped til a'
The lords were soon' asleep
Then quietly took aff his shune and
Softly doon the stairs did creep
Sing fadden dilly, fadden dilly, fadden
Dilly deedle dan

He took the halter frae his hose and o'
His purpose didna fail
But wapped it o'er the wanton's nose
And tied it tae the gray mare's tail
Syne ca'd them oot at yon back yett
O'er moss and muir and ilka dale
An' she's ne'er let the wanton bite but
Held her still gan' at her tail
Sing fadden dilly, fadden dilly, fadden
Dilly deedle dan

They grey mare was right swift o' fit and
Didna fail tae find the way
For she wis at Lochmaben yetts fu'
Lang three 'oors 'er it wis day
And when she reached the harper's
Door there she have mony a nicker and
Snear
"Oh rise, oh rise you lazy lass let in the
Master and his mare"
Sing fadden dilly, fadden dilly, fadden
Dilly deedle dan

So up she rose, put on her clothes and
Lookit oot though the lock hole
"Oh by my sooth" then said the lass
"Oor mare has gotten a braw big foal!"
"Come haud the peace you foolish lass
The moon's but glancing in yer e'ee"
"I'll wadge ma hail fee 'gainst a groat
It's bigger than e'er oor foal will be"
Sing fadden dilly, fadden dilly, fadden
Dilly deedle dan

Then in the morn at fair daylight when
They had ended a' their cheer
King Henry's wanton broon was stawn
An' ee the poor auld harper's mare
"Alas! Alas!" then said the harper, "Alas!
Alas! That I cam here,
In Scotland I've a braw cowte foal and
Here they've stawn my guid grey mare!"

"Come haud the peace you foolish
Harper o' your alasin' let me be
For ye shall get a better mare and weel
Paid for your cowte foal be"
Sing fadden dilly, fadden dilly, fadden
Dilly deedle dan
Sign fadden dilly, fadden dilly, fadden
Dilly deedle dan



Activity 1

Choose one verse in the song and come up with some actions to go along with it!

Activity 2

Make a model of the instrument you'd like to play.

Activity 3

Have a look around your house for some materials that could be used to make a model of a harp. Maybe put some elastic bands around an open box! Try carefully plucking the elastic bands.

Glossary

- Toon – town
- Tae – to
- Gaed – went
- Guidwife – wife / lady of the house
- Without – without
- Guid – good
- Baith – both
- Dinna – don't
- Syne – then
- Ca – call
- Oot – out
- Yet – gate
- Ilka – every
- Thoucht – thought
- Shune – shoes
- Lookit – looked
- Haud – hold
- E'ee – eye
- Stawn – stolen
- Cam – came
- Cowte - young

