Three Little Birds Sitting on a Wall

Over the years I have enjoyed singing a song about three little birds sitting on a wall that, sadly, fly away one by one, but then, gladly, returned one by one. I started singing this to young people many years ago when I was a summer camp advisor and then later a camp director. They always seemed to enjoy it and would often ask for it again or again the next night. Then I started singing it to my younger relatives (nephews, nieces, etc.) and, now that I have a grandson (our first grandchild), know that he will be at least bilingual, and personally am learning Spanish, I decided to translate the song with the help of my bilingual daughter, Nancy, a Spanish teacher, and my friend Judy, multilingual and a Spanish teacher. I look forward to singing it to Kian as he grows older.

For visual effects in singing the song to others, use your imagination. I like to put up three fingers behind a sofa, chair, or table, and then reduce or add them one at a time as the birds leave or return. I also have used a sock puppet and one time a group of young campers used the song in a skit with wonderful homemade costumes, flying motions, etc. It was a wonderful sight to behold and I wish I had a video of them.

Below you will find the words in English and in Spanish. If you would like to hear it with the Spanish words, click here. To sing it in English with the correct cadence, substitute “little birdies” or “little pigeons” for “pajaritos.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three little birdies</td>
<td>Tres pajaritos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>three little birdies</td>
<td>tres pajaritos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>three little birdies</td>
<td>tres pajaritos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sitting on a wall</td>
<td>sentados en un muro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oh, no, one flew away</td>
<td>¡Ay, no! Uno se fue volando.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oh, what a pity</td>
<td>¡Ay! ¡Qué lástima!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two little birdies</td>
<td>Dos pajaritos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>two little birdies</td>
<td>dos pajaritos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>two little birdies</td>
<td>dos pajaritos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sitting on a wall</td>
<td>sentados en un muro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oh, no, one flew away</td>
<td>¡Ay, no! Uno se fue volando.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oh, what a pity</td>
<td>¡Ay! ¡Qué lástima!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One little birdie</td>
<td>Un pajarito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one little birdie</td>
<td>un pajarito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one little birdie</td>
<td>un pajarito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sitting on a wall</td>
<td>sentado en un muro</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Oh, no, it flew away
Oh, what a pity
No little birdies
No little birdies
No little birdies
sitting on a wall

¡Ay, no! Uno se fue volando
¡Ay! ¡Qué lástima!
Cero pajaritos
cero pajaritos
cero pajaritos
sentado en un muro

Oh, what a pity. No more birds.
Oh, no bird, how sad

¡Ay! ¡Qué lástima! No mas pajaritos
¡Ay! Ningun pajarito. ¡Qué triste!

But wait, there comes a bird
Hooray, hooray

Pero espera..... alli viene una pajarito
Olé, bravo

One little birdie
one little birdie
one little birdie
sitting on a wall

Un pajarito
un pajarito
un pajarito
sentado en un muro

Look, here comes another bird
Hooray, hooray

Mira, alli viene otro pajarito
Olé, bravo

Two little birdies
two little birdies
two little birdies
sitting on a wall

Dos pajaritos
dos pajaritos
dos pajaritos
sentados en un muro

Look, here comes another bird
Hooray, hooray

Mira, alli viene otro pajarito
Olé, bravo

Three little birdies
three little birdies
three little birdies
sitting on a wall

Tres pajaritos
tres pajaritos
tres pajaritos
sentados en un muro

Hooray, hooray

Olé, bravo

And now for a hit parade extra, here I am singing You Are My Sunshine in English. This one, too, is enjoyed by Kian.

Roger Hiemstra  November 20, 2008