

Dǎ Qiáo Mài
Threshing the Buckwheat

Pinyin Version:

- 1) Yī luó mài ya, liǎng luó mài,
San luó kāi shǐ dǎ qiáo mài,
- 2) Sì luó mài ya, wǔ luó mài,
liù luó kāi shǐ dǎ qiáo mài,
- 3) qī luó mài ya, bā luó mài,
jiǔ luó kāi shǐ dǎ qiáo mài,

pī pī pā pī pī pā pī pī pā pā pī pī pā

English Translation:

One basket full of buckwheat
Two baskets full of buckwheat
Three baskets full of buckwheat
Start threshing the buckwheat!

Four baskets full of buckwheat
Five baskets full of buckwheat
Six baskets full of buckwheat
Start threshing the buckwheat!

Seven baskets full of buckwheat
Eight baskets full of buckwheat
Nine baskets full of buckwheat
Start threshing the buckwheat!

Chinese Notation:

打荞麦

1. 一罗麦(呀), 两罗麦, 三罗开始打荞麦,
2. 四罗麦(呀), 五罗麦, 六罗开始打荞麦,
3. 七罗麦(呀), 八罗麦, 九罗开始打荞麦,

1-3 劈劈啪, 劈劈啪, 劈劈啪啪, 劈劈啪。

Song Information:

A traditional Beijing rhyme about threshing buckwheat set to music.
This is an excellent song to practice counting in Chinese from 1-9.
The repetitive text makes it relatively easy to learn to sing.
The text “pī pī pā” is the sound of the buckwheat being threshed.
There is a hand game that can be played with this song.

Pi pi = clap hands, then partner clap
Pai = back of hands clap