

# John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt

START

John      Ja - cob    Jin - gle - hopp - er Schmidt!    His name      is my name, too!

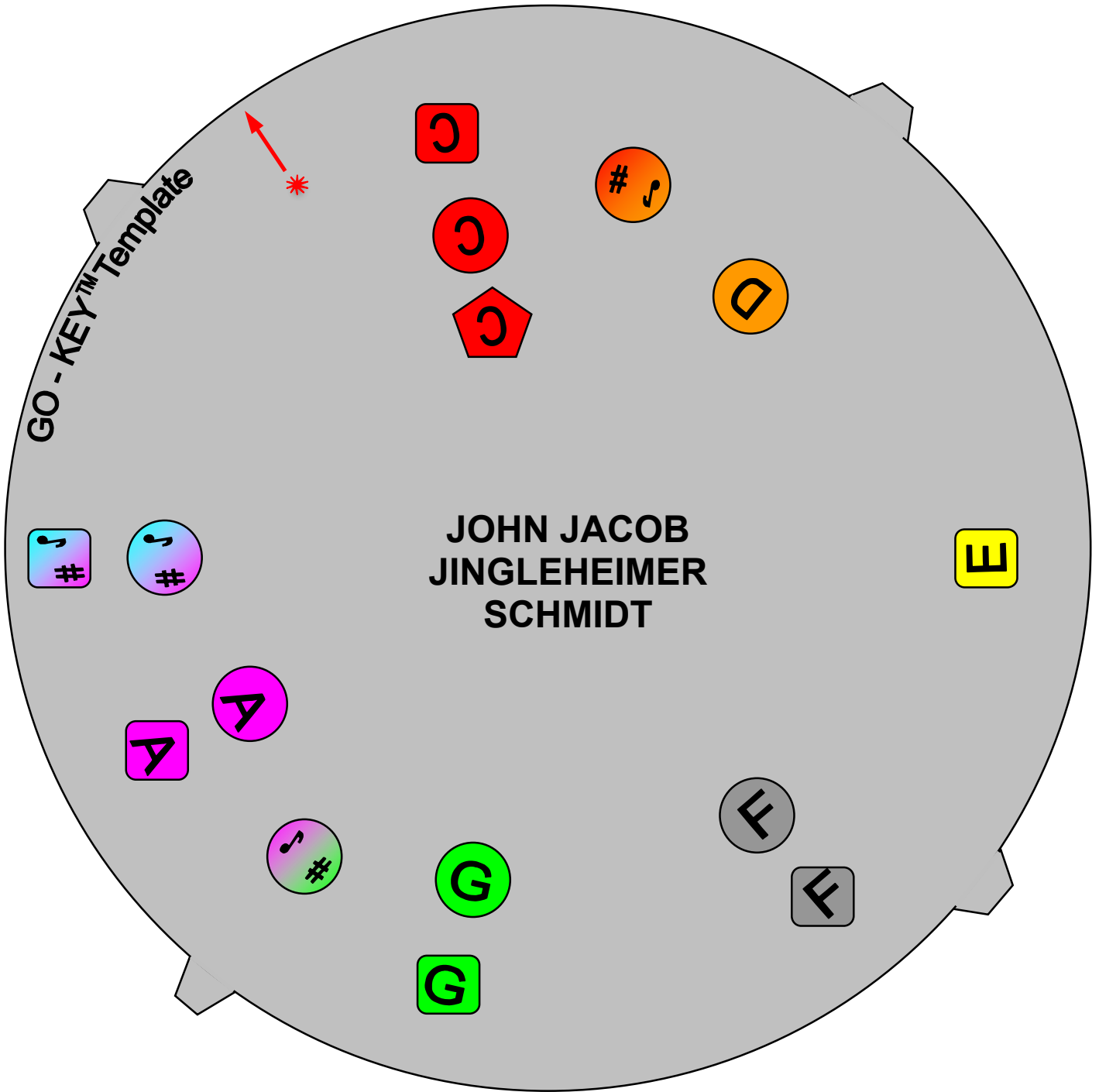
When - ev - er    we go out,      The peo - ple    al - ways shout! There goes John

Ja - cob    Jin - gle - hopp - er Schmidt!    Ya    da    da    da    da    da    da...    REPEAT OR END

da.

## Lyrics

John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt  
 His name is my name, too  
 Whenever we go out  
 The people always shout  
 There goes John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt  
 Ya-da-da-da-da-da-da



## History and Origin

**"John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt"** is a traditional children's song that originates from the United States of America. The song consists of one verse repeated over and over again while increasing in volume (or decreasing, except for the closing "da da da..." phrase) for each iteration. There are other ways of singing this song such as increasing (*accelerando*) or decreasing (*ritardando*) in tempo after each repetition. The lyrics of the song depend on who is singing. There are various lyrics to the song, for example one version repeats several times, often while altering the tempo or pitch.

While the origins of the song are obscure, some evidence places its roots with vaudeville and theatre acts of the late 19th century and early 20th century popular in immigrant communities. Some vaudeville acts during the era, such as the work of Joe Weber and Lew Fields, often gave voice to shared frustrations of German-American immigrants and heavily leaned on malapropisms and difficulties with the English language as a vehicle for its humor. Further, "John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt" shares many characteristics with "My Name is Jan Jansen", a song that can trace its origin to Swedish vaudeville in the late 19th century.

By the mid-20th century, the song appears to have already become widely known. In 1931, the Elmira Star Gazette, a newspaper in upstate New York, reported that at a Boy Scout gathering at Seneca Lake, as scouts entered the mess hall "Troop 18 soon burst into the first camp song, 'John Jacob Jingleheimer Smith.'" A 1941 Milwaukee Journal article also refers to the song, with the same alternate spelling of "John Jacob Jingleheimer Smith."

The song can be sung in an infinite loop, like "The Song That Never Ends", "My Name is Jan Jansen" or, "Michael Finnegan".

Versions of this song also appear in other languages, such as the Spanish rendition; "Juan Paco Pedro de la Mar".

### **Notable Appearances:**

1964, The Andy Griffith Show episode "Back to Nature" (season 4, episode 31).

1971, Daddy Dewdrop released as the B-side to his single, "Chick-A-Boom (Don't Ya Jes' Love It)".

1994, The song is featured in a scene of the film In The Army Now.

1995, Song is the name of Robin Williams' character in the movie, To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything!

1997, Comedy sci-fi movie RocketMan used song.

2001, Disney animated movie Recess: School's Out

2010, In the TV show Psych episode "Romeo and Juliet and Juliet" (season 5, episode 1).

- This song was featured in an episode of Barney & Friends
- Joel Robinson, Tom Servo, and Crow T. Robot, frequently sing the song during the Monster a Go-Go episode of Mystery Science Theater 3000.