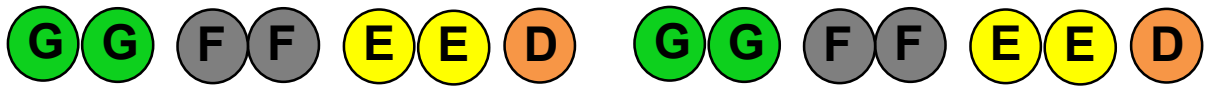



# Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

  
TWINKLE TWINKLE LITTLE STAR HOW I WONDER WHAT YOU ARE

  
UP ABOVE THE WORLD SO HIGH LIKE A DIAMOND IN THE SKY

  
TWINKLE TWINKLE LITTLE STAR HOW I WONDER WHAT YOU ARE

## Lyrics

The lyrics are from the poem below, with the first two lines of the poem repeated as shown above.

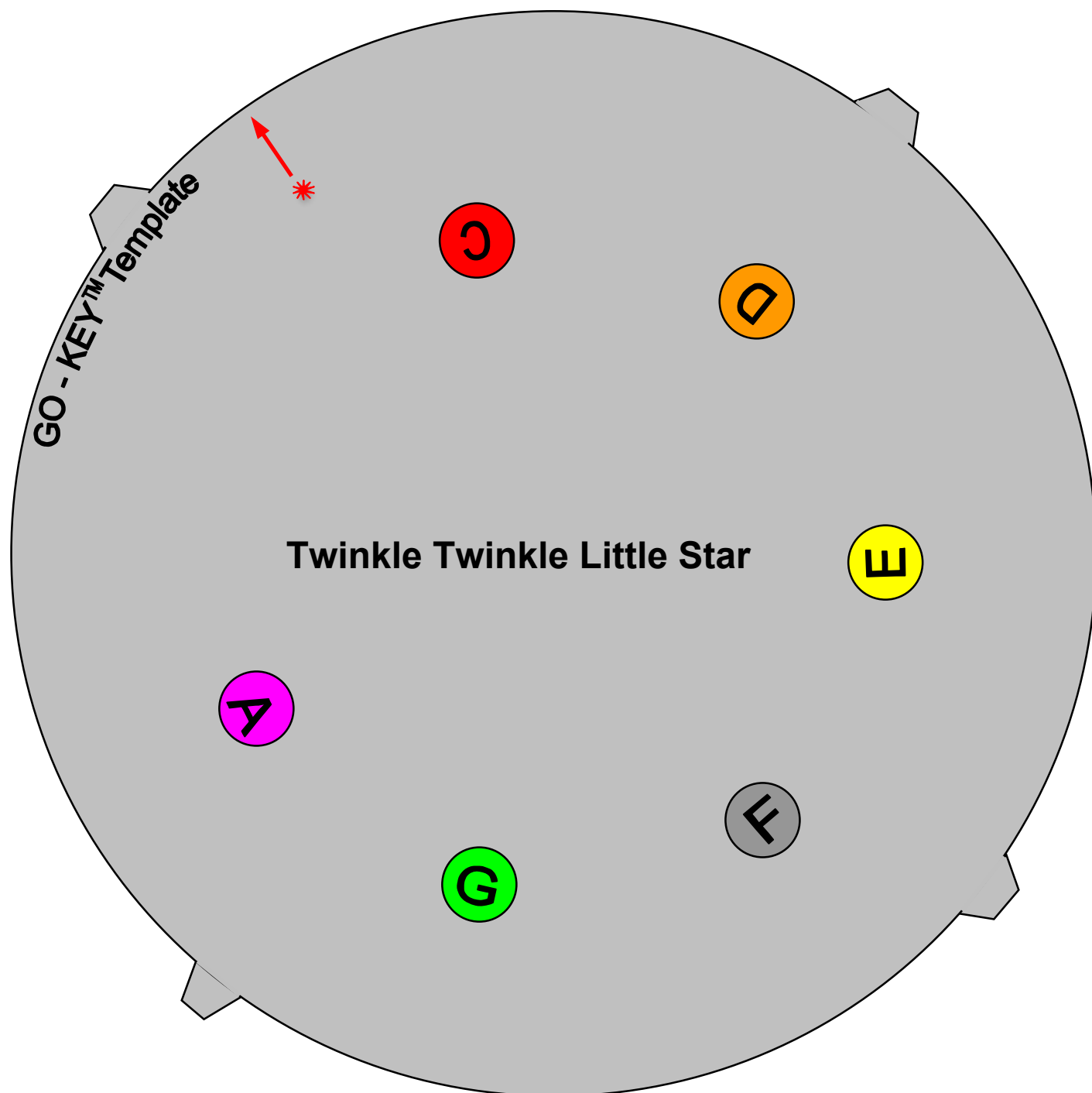
Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are!  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky.

When this blazing sun is gone,  
When he nothing shines upon,  
Then you show your little light,  
Twinkle, twinkle, through the night.

Then the traveller in the dark  
Thanks you for your tiny spark;  
He could not see where to go,  
If you did not twinkle so.

In the dark blue sky you keep,  
And often through my curtains peep,  
For you never shut your eye  
Till the sun is in the sky.

As your bright and tiny spark  
Lights the traveller in the dark,  
Though I know not what you are,  
Twinkle, twinkle, little star.



## History and Origin

"**Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star**" is a popular English lullaby. The lyrics are from an early-19th-century English poem by Jane Taylor, "The Star". The poem, which is in couplet form, was first published in 1806 in *Rhymes for the Nursery*, a collection of poems by Taylor and her sister Ann. It is sung to the tune of the French melody *Ah! vous dirai-je, maman*, which was published in 1761 and later arranged by several composers including Mozart with *Twelve Variations on "Ah vous dirai-je, Maman"*. The English lyrics have five stanzas, although only the first is widely known. It has a Roud Folk Song Index number of 7666. This song is usually performed in the key of C major.

The song is in the public domain, and has many adaptations around the world.

The English lyrics were first written as a poem by Jane Taylor (1783–1824) and published with the title "The Star" in *Rhymes for the Nursery* by Jane and her sister Ann Taylor (1782–1866) in London in 1806. The lyrics from "The Star" were first published with the tune in *The Singing Master: First Class Tune Book* in 1838. Although before, when it was just a folk song, there were only 4 verses.

The first stanza of the song is typically as written, but further stanzas typically contain minor variations. Additional variations exist such as from 1896 in *Song Stories for the Kindergarten* by Mildred J. Hill.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How we wonder what you are.  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky.

When the glorious sun has set,  
And the grass with dew is wet,  
Then you show your little light,  
Twinkle, twinkle, all the night.

When the golden sun doth rise,  
Fills with shining light the skies,  
Then you fade away from sight,  
Shine no more 'till comes the night.

A parody of "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" titled "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Bat" is recited by the Mad Hatter in chapter seven of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

An adaptation of the song, named "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Earth", was written by Charles Randolph Grean, Fred Hertz and Leonard Nimoy. It is included on Nimoy's first 1967 album *Leonard Nimoy Presents Mr. Spock's Music From Outer Space*, with him reciting the text as Spock explaining how the star-people wish upon an earth and so forth.

As of April 2019, a version of the song uploaded to YouTube by the channel "Super Simple Songs - Kids Songs" has received over 1.1 billion views.