## Mp3 Groovi Pauli - Mandarin Chinese Songs For Kids

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A variety of fun, catchy songs to help young kids learn Mandarin Chinese. 18 MP3 Songs in this album (38:17)! Related styles: KIDS/FAMILY: Educational, KIDS/FAMILY: Kid Friendly People who are interested in Dan Zanes The Wiggles should consider this download. Details: Groovi Pauli is the moniker used by Pauli Haakenson in this fun, widely diverse album to introduce English-speaking kids aged 4-8 to Mandarin Chinese. Pauli is a Scandinavian-American man living in Hong Kong who teaches Mandarin Chinese to expatriate kids there. He notes, Now that my own bilingual children Aoife (8) and Bjrn (4) have hit the age range I am teaching, I am surrounded all day, every day with developing bilingual competence in children. The album includes musical genres such as blues, country, reggae, hip-hop, trance, smooth jazz and a ballad at the end. In addition to Paulis voice, other Mandarin Chinese contributors to the album include his daughter Aoife (pronounced eefa), son Bjrn, Taiwan-born Max and Hanna (of America), Indonesian-born Milan and his father Craig (of Australia), Anna (of South Africa), and quadralingual Wheldon (of Canada). The album developed out of a need to have more options to help English-speaking kids practice new phrases they were learning in Mandarin Chinese. Pauli remarks, In my job as a Mandarin Chinese teacher to kids aged 4-8, I quickly realized there was little in the way of fun, catchy music to help non-native speakers learn Mandarin Chinese. Most of the kids music in Mandarin Chinese is geared towards native speakers. So, I began to write songs based on the language goals for the kids and they responded enthusiastically. Track 6 What country are you from? is a good illustration of this as he says, the kids picked up that phrase even before they completely understood each word... that is one of the most satisfying feelings any musician can have, writing to a specific audience and seeing the faces light up to a new song. Purists might take issue with his approach to most songs on this album, since both Mandarin Chinese and English are used, largely as translation. These purists may say, If you are writing for Mandarin Chinese language development, there should be NO English in the song whatsoever. Groovi Pauli disagrees with this because he thinks building on a childs first language - assuming it is English here - allows the kid to make strong language connections in their brain. Both track 2 (Mandarin in your English brain) and track 9 (Going up/going down) are good examples of these where the words in

Mandarin Chinese are followed by a translation in English. Pauli says, Heck, if Dora the Explorer can get away with mixing Spanish into a largely English language T.V. show, then I should be able to as well! This album basically has four parts: A. Introduction to Mandarin Chinese: track 1 Introduction, track 2 Mandarin in your English brain, and track 3 Only four tones (which illustrates the tonal aspect of Mandarin Chinese). B. The Basic Questions: These are typically the first things anyone would try to learn in a new language such as track 4, What is your name? track 5, How old are you? track 6 What country are you from? and track 7 What do you like to eat? C. Language Points: These three tracks came out of class experiences focusing on specific points, such as basic colors on track 8 Color Samba, track 9 Going up/going down which talks about two of the most commonly used Chinese characters and track 10 Have, have not which is a commonly spoken phrase. D. Feelings: Pauli says, These 8 short songs started out as a feelings medley, but they morphed into separate songs as I explored how to get the music to match each feeling. All of them are written from the perspective of 4-8 year-old kids, so they can identify more with the lyrics. The feelings include track 11 The angry song, track 12 Happy, track 13 So sad blues, track 14 Im hungry (one of my personal favorites), track 15 Dont be bored, track 16 Scared, track 17 Surprised, and finally track 18 Im sleepy and tired.

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