

# ANTS IN MY PANTS



13 Funtastic Animal Songs with Creative Movement Concepts  
for Unison Voices

Reproducible  
Student Pages  
Included!

By **Sally K. Albrecht**

Recording Orchestrated by Tim Hayden

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Reproducible student pages and full-color cover art are included as PDF files on the Enhanced SoundTrax CD.



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## Foreword

While visiting my niece and her children over the summer, we had a spontaneous dance party in the kitchen after dinner. We were calling out different ways to dance and move, and just saying “ants in my pants” certainly made us all giggle. On the drive home, this project started taking shape, and I stopped at rest areas to jot down ideas.

Watching the different ways animals move is fascinating to me, as I’m sure it will also be to your students. Take time to watch videos of these animals in action, then creatively try to imitate their movements.

Movement and staging ideas are included for each selection, but invite your young singers to tap their imagination as well! Divide and number your students by pairs, trios, or even quartets. Then call out which number person is the animal leader, asking the others to mirror the leader’s creative movements. Then ring a bell or blow a whistle to assign a new leader.

Your students will have a blast singing this “baker’s dozen” of tunes in the classroom or on stage. Sing them all, or select a number of contrasting favorites to perform as a concert set. Involve your art classes and design animal hats, masks, or costumes as desired.

## About the Composer



Sally K. Albrecht is a popular choral composer, conductor, and clinician, especially known for her work with choral movement. A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Sally received a B. A. Degree from Rollins College (FL) with a double major in Music and Theater. From there she moved to the University of Miami, where she received both an M. A. in Drama and an M. M. in Accompanying. She taught in the music departments at Oakland University (MI) and Jersey City State College (NJ). For 24 years, she was the Director of School Choral, Vocal, and Elementary Publications for Alfred Music.

Sally has hundreds of chorals, songbooks, musicals, and movement DVDs in print. She has conducted honor choir events across the country, including festivals at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, and The Kennedy Center.

## About the Recording

*Ants in My Pants* was recorded by Tim Hayden at Ned’s Place Studio in Nashville, TN. The project was mixed by Kent Heckman at Red Rock Recording in Saylorsburg, PA.

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Please visit our website for more information on all of Alfred’s elementary musicals, songbooks, and classroom materials.

# STAGING AND MOVEMENT NOTES



## 1. Ants in My Pants

This theme song rocks! When performing, singers can invite their parents, siblings, and/or friends to sing and dance along on the chorus.

**INTRO:** Be busy, fidgety.

### VERSE 1

**m. 5:** Point R index out 4x while leaning forward.

**m. 7:** Pull both thumbs into chest 4x while leaning back.

**m. 9:** Swing hips 3x to R and L, getting more involved each time.

**m. 12:** Shake both hands 4x from low to high.

**m. 13:** Using piano rhythm, throw R hand down while stomping R, then repeat with L.

### CHORUS

**m. 14:** Lean forward facing stage R and rumble (roll arms and wiggle bottom), clap up on beat 4. Repeat facing L.

**m. 16:** Repeat.

**m. 18:** As before, swing hips 3x to R and L, shake both hands 4x low to high.

**m. 21:** Jazz hands shimmer down, landing on thighs on beat 3.

**m. 22:** Lean forward holding own cheeks, lean back with open palms above shoulders.

**m. 24:** Circle and wiggle hips like mad!

### VERSE 2

**m. 5:** Yawn and slowly get into “sleeping” pose with hands under head to R on neighbor’s L shoulder (opt. pull up sheets, quilts, or blankets).

**m. 9:** Start to move head to the beat, then include body, too.

**m. 12:** As before.

**2nd ENDING:** Repeat move as before.

**m. 29:** Lean forward facing stage R and rumble, sing over L shoulder, throw hands on hips on final beat 4 with hips forward.

## 2. Curl Up Like a Cat

Cats love to curl themselves up and squeeze themselves into small, awkward spaces: boxes, hats, bowls, sinks, baskets, etc. They do that for protection, plus it enables them to jump out easily. Also, it keeps them warm.

**INTRO:** Lick R paw 3x, clean R ear as you sing “Meow!” Repeat L.

### VERSE 1

**m. 9:** Pull R paw in, then L paw to cross.

**m. 13:** With paws crossed in front, just lift head up to L with nose in the air.

**m. 17:** Punch L fist out as if hitting a ball above your head 2x, then sleep to R side.

**m. 21:** Slow, low look across from R to L with paws on thighs.

**m. 23:** Cross paws in front again. Then repeat R paw licks 3x and clean R ear. Repeat L.

### VERSE 2

**m. 9:** Pull R paw in, then L paw to cross.

**m. 13:** Crunch in to be small.

**m. 17:** Tilt head to R, then “lick” L paw 2x. Then repeat as before. End with paws front.

## 1. ANTS IN MY PANTS

Words and Music by  
**SALLY K. ALBRECHT**

Rock it! (♩ = ca. 138)

*mf*

My  
My

D A/C# Bm<sup>7</sup> D/A G Em/A A<sup>7</sup> D G/A D

*mf*

5

moth - er said, "Can't you sit still?" — I an - swered, "If I  
moth - er tucked me in to - night, — and pulled the cov - ers

A/C# Bm A<sup>7</sup> D A/C#

8

can, I will!" — But then the mu - sic start - ed to play, — and it gave me such a  
oh, so tight. — But when the mu - sic got in my head, — just i - mag - ine what I

Bm A<sup>7</sup> D G D A/C# B<sup>7</sup>sus<sup>4</sup> E<sup>7</sup>

12

14

thrill! }  
said! }

I feel like I got ants in my pants, ants in my pants!

A D/A A D/A A D G/D D G/D D

*f*

# 2. CURL UP LIKE A CAT

Words and Music by  
**SALLY K. ALBRECHT**

With a lilt (♩ = ca. 60)

*mf*

Me - ow!

*mf* C F G

5 9

Me - ow! I'd like to curl up like a  
Me - ow! I'd like to curl up like a

C F G C G<sup>7</sup>

11

cat. And not give a hoot a - bout this or  
cat. Roll up like a ball in a box or

C G<sup>7</sup> C G<sup>7</sup> C