



YOUNG SINGERS OF THE PALM BEACHES

YSPB's Learning Resource Program is made possible with support from Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc., which receives significant funding for its overall operations from the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County. The Palm Beach County Youth Services Department provides support for Prime Time's Middle School Out-of-School Time Initiative.



Jamaica: Mento

Created by YSPB Conductor Lorianne Cabrera

Join Mrs. Cabrera LIVE and let's have fun making Mento style music together, on Friday, June 12th at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom via this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87298155774?pwd=bFdjS20xSWNTNFRJOWJLQzB6OFVEQT09>

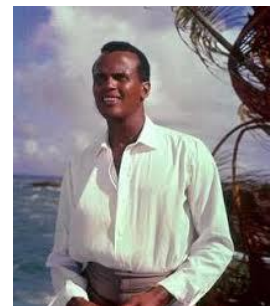
Meeting ID: 872 9815 5774

Password: 650343

Step 1: Let's take a trip to the tropical Caribbean paradise of Jamaica described by the children of the island. Click the link: [My Country Jamaica](#)

Step 2: Storytelling is very important to Jamaican culture. African slaves brought to the island, told tales that had been part of their oral tradition for centuries. Let's listen to this read aloud to learn more about this interesting island nation. Click the link: [Anya Goes to Jamaica.](#)

Step 3: **Mento** is a Jamaican style of music that blends African rhythms and European elements. It was very popular in the 1940's and 1950's. The song "**Day O**" tells about the banana trade in Jamaica in the early 1900's. Men would work long hours loading ships full of bananas. This work song helped to pass the time and work to a rhythm. Let's listen to Harry Belafonte's well-known version of this traditional song. Click the link: [Harry Belafonte: Day-O](#)



(Harry Belafonte)

Step 4: Now Listen to a folk version of "Day-O" sung by Louise Bennett, a Jamaican poet, storyteller, singer and cultural activist. You will hear phrases spoken and sung in **Patois** which is an English based language blended with West African words. When the slaves were brought to Jamaica by the British they learned English but kept many of their African words and phrases. Listen carefully to the language and differences between the two versions.



Click the link: [Day Da Light Folk Song](#)

Step 5: Try a sing-a-long with the Harry Belafonte version of "Day-O."

Click the link: [Day-O Sing-A-Long](#)

Step 6: Let's get moving and try some choreography to accompany the song.

Click the links: [Banana Boat Choreography](#) - [Just Dance: Day O](#)

Step 7: Let's use virtual instruments to play-a-long with "Day-O."

You will need to open a separate tab for each link so that you can see the play-a-long and access whichever virtual instrument you choose to use at the same time.

Click the links:

- [Virtual Boomwhackers](#)
- [Virtual Piano](#)
- [Virtual Xylophone](#)
- [Virtual Guitar](#)
- [Virtual Drums](#)
- [Day -O Play Along](#)

Guitar Chords:

[D](#) Day-oh [A7](#) [D](#) Day-oh Daylight come an' I [A7](#) wanna go [D](#) home

[D](#) Day-oh [A7](#) [D](#) Day-oh Daylight come an' I [A7](#) wanna go [D](#) home

[D](#) Six han' seven han' [A7](#) eight han' [D](#) bunch

[D](#) Daylight come an' I [A7](#) wanna go [D](#) home

[D](#) Six han' seven han' [A7](#) eight han' [D](#) bunch

[D](#) Daylight come an' I [A7](#) wanna go [D](#) home

[D](#) Come mister tally man [A7](#) tally me [D](#) banana

[D](#) Daylight come an' I [A7](#) wanna go [D](#) home

[D](#) Come mister tally man [A7](#) tally me [D](#) banana

[D](#) Daylight come an' I [A7](#) wanna go [D](#) home

[D](#) Day-oh [A7](#) [D](#) Day-oh Daylight come an' I [A7](#) wanna go [D](#) home

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