Chirri Bim

Chirri bim, chirri bom,
Chirri bim bom, bim bom, bom—
Chirri bim, chiribom,
Chirri bim bom, bim bom, bom.

Ay chirri biri biri, ay chirri biri biri, Ay chirri biri biri, ay chirri biri, Ay chirri biri biri, ay chirri biri biri, Chirri biri bim bom bom.



Marc Chagall — The Fiddler, 1912-1913.

A **nigun** is a song without words from the Hassidic mystical tradition of Judaism. Sometimes improvised and sometimes prepared, the rabbi or the cantor sings nigunim (Hebrew plural of nigun) in the temple, and on solemn occasions. At weddings, a nigun is a joyous song, and people dance to the music. At other times, the song is meditative. A nigun can also be a form of private prayer. Chirri Bim is an example of a joyous nigun. *Excerpt from Spotlight on Music, Grade 2, p. 70; McGraw-Hill 1995*