



Gregorian Chant and Music Notation

Gregorian chant is named after Pope Gregory I who lived at the turn of the sixth century. By the ninth century, Guido of Arrezzo had devised the system of music notation we use today.

6

6

- Listen again to Track 5 and talk about the music the monks are chanting.
 - Suggest some adjectives for this music. [Suggestions: haunting, spooky, still, floating]
 - Can you describe it in musical terms? [Answer: long legato lines, quiet *piano* dynamics, monophonic single lines]
 - How do you think monks sung such long lines without appearing to breathe? [Answer: with training and practice. Monks often achieved spiritual light-headedness by hyperventilating while singing Gregorian chant.]

Early One Morning

The children set out to the familiar tune of *Early One Morning*. Here it is written for two recorders; there is a more complicated version with Renaissance descant by Praetorius on *Daydreams and Lullabies*.

1.2

- Photocopy this music, then play it on recorders or sing it using these words written by a Grade 4 class.

Early One Morning

2 Recorders:

arr. Susan Hammond

Ear - ly one morn - ing, just as the sun was ris - ing, I heard a maid sing - ing in the

val - ley be - low. "Come, let us gath - er round, Let's make a joy - ful sound,

We shall sing and dance this whole day a - way."