

How Many Miles to Barley Bright

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "How ma - ny miles to Bar - ley Bright? Three score and ten _____ Shall I get there by can - - dle light? Yes, if your legs are li - ssome and bright. You'll get there by can - - dle light. Op - en the gates as wide as the sky, and let the king and queen come by." The lyrics are written in a simple, sans-serif font, with hyphens used to indicate syllables across notes. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 6/8.

Singing game: Children join hands and skip dance around. When they say "Open the gates", throw up arms making arches.

Source: Sung by Mrs C S Neal, Glebe Farm, Aston-Subedge. Learned as a little girl from an aunt over fifty years previously in Shipton on Stour, Warwickshire. Collected by James Madison Carpenter between 1927 and 1935.