Three Little Drummers

Traditional Irish Jig
Lyrics by Bob Beers

drumming

They were abreast, Three in a line, Then off they did go for to follow the sign.

CHORUS

Valley and stubble and river and rill, three little drummers came over the hill. Three

THEIR little drummers stood on the highground. They walked all about and they circled around. When

Valley and stubble and river and rill, three little drummers came over the hill.

"Three Little Drummers" is an old Irish jig that is in O'Neill's and also in Coles 1000 Fiddle Tunes (Ryan's Mammoth). Bob Beers set lyrics to it, making it into a Christmas song. I have included one of his verses and the chorus, so you can get the flavor of what he did, and how one goes about turnng a fiddle tune into a song.

If you want the rest of the lyrics, see if you can find the album "A Beers Family Christmas" or look for it on YouTube. There are also instrumental versions on YouTube at dance tempo or faster, but the song is much slower.

"Three Little Drummers" lends itself to playing and/or singing with a continuous crescendo, adding instruments, voices and volume up to the last verse. And it helps if you have a drum-tabor drum, snare drum, tenor drum, hand drum, or whatever is at hand. You could even experiment with someone drumming on a low D dulcimer string using chopsticks or knitting needles.