Sutton Elementary teacher Holly Stachler (Muncie, IN) revised Ruth Culham's original 6-Traits songs to be more kindergarten friendly. She rewrote them all to the same tune—"If You're Happy and You Know It."

Ideas Song

If you've got a good idea, draw it out.
If you've got a good idea, write it out.
If you've got a lot to say,
Say it in a detailed way.
If you've got a good idea, write it out.

Organization Song

Start with a strong beginning—Organize.

Have a detailed middle—Organize.

Sum it up at the end.

Then read it through again.

For a great piece of writing, organize.

Voice Song *

If you're happy and you know it, that's your voice.
If you're sad and you know it, that's your voice.
If you're spunky and you know it,
Then your words will surely show it.
Show your feelings in your writing, that's your voice.

Word Choice Song

Pick your words so very carefully.
Pick your words so very carefully.
"Sparkle Words" help you say
Things in a special way.
Pick your words so very carefully.

Sentence Fluency Song

Let your ideas flow across the page.
Let your ideas flow across the page.
Having different starts
Is a real work of art.
Let your ideas flow across the page.

Conventions Song

If you want your writing to pass the test,
Punctuation helps your writing be its best.
Letters in upper and lowercase,
put in their proper place,
Make your writing better than all the rest.