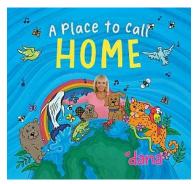


"Every creature everywhere needs their own somewhere."



## Dana's Music Playground Releases 'A Place to Call Home'

An album of 11 original songs about the places animals (and people) live, available on June 6, 2020.

Every living being, from honey bees to humans, needs a safe place to call home. Dana, an award-winning singer/songwriter for children, highlights the havens of animals and people with her seventh album, *A Place to Call Home*. Dana will celebrate the album release on June 6th with an online family concert. The album will be available for pre-orders on May 16<sup>th</sup> from www.danasmusicplayground.com and wherever music is streamed or sold.

Every living being, from honey bees to humans, needs a safe place to call home. Dana, an award-winning singer/songwriter for children, highlights the havens of animals and people with her seventh album, *A Place to Call Home*. Dana will celebrate the album release on June 6th with an online family concert. The album will be available for pre-orders on May 16<sup>th</sup> from <a href="https://www.danasmusicplayground.com">www.danasmusicplayground.com</a> and wherever music is streamed or sold.

The immigration crisis at the US-Mexican border crossing inspired Dana to write these songs. Moved by the fact that the families trying to cross the border (and other refugees worldwide) were desperately looking for a place just to be safe and simply live with their families, Dana wrote the lyrics to what would become the album's title song: "Everybody needs that one place... everybody needs a safe space... everybody needs somewhere to be with their family. A place to call home."

Animals also need secure habitats. Dana's new songs explore the different places animals make their homes... in the sky and sea, in wetlands, hidden underground tunnels and more. She chose to shine a light on some animals who are threatened and incorporated factual information into the lyrics. The rousing rocker "Underground Traffic Jam" humorously narrates what happens when a variety of critters burrow their way through congested passageways, and young listeners learn that beavers are "nature's engineers" on "Let's Build a Dam". The song "Honey Bee Bee Bop" is a jazzy dance number based on fact. These "planet heroes" do a figure 8 style "waggle dance" to communicate about the best spots to gather nectar. A hermit crab on Carrie Bow Cay in the Caribbean sings about "always looking for another place to stay" on the reggae style tune "Movin' Day".

For "Migration," Dana consulted with the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), who graciously lent their recordings of humpback whales to the song. "Humpback whales are wonderful composers and singers," notes biological oceanographer, John Ryan of MBARI. "I am delighted to hear our recordings of humpback whale song interwoven with Dana's musical composition. This brilliant album plants seeds of care for all life on Earth." Having composed the piece in the key of C, Dana was amazed to find that the whales were singing in tune with her once they were added to the track. Similarly, the bossa nova style "Rainforest Symphony" is enhanced by the sounds of Amazonian birds and other animals that listeners encounter on their paddle down the Amazon River.

Introducing children to numerous musical genres and respecting their little ears with high production standards has long been Dana's intention. For this recording, she worked closely with Boston area producer EJ Ouellette and top session artists. Ouellette plays 11 different instruments himself and enlisted drummer Dave Mattacks (whose credits include Paul McCartney, Elton John, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Jethro Tull and Fairport Convention). In addition to lead and background vocals, Dana plays keys/piano and is joined by Albert Lamar and Steve Baker on flute and saxophone. The Whole Music Kids' Chorus adds cheerful background vocals to several tracks.

"My hope is that these songs will help children to develop a love and appreciation for the animals and their habitats and be inspired to make a difference for every living creature on this precious planet we all call home." says Dana.

Dana has created music videos (to be released on 3 consecutive Saturdays starting May 16) and educational activity sheets to complement the album. As soon as possible, she will announce her <a href="next family concerts">next family concerts</a> and the return of her Music Playground classes in September. Meanwhile, her "Dana's Music Playground" Saturday morning series on YouTube offers hours of fun for stuck-athome families. Visit <a href="www.danasmusicplayground.com">www.danasmusicplayground.com</a> and <a href="Dana's Music Playground on Facebook">Dana's Music Playground on Facebook</a> for updates.

For a press/DJ download or review copy, please contact:

Beth Blenz-Clucas, beth@sugarmountainpr.com

**Press kit page** with more information and downloadable artwork:

https://musicplayground.co/index.php/press/

## A Place to Call Home Track List

- A Place to Call Home 3:16
- 2. Underground Traffic Jam 4:16
- 3. Migration 4:29
- 4. Let's Build a Dam 3:16
- 5. Rainforest Symphony 4:10
- 6. Honey Bee Bee Bop 3:03
- 7. Bluebird 3:35
- 8. Dog on My Head 3:36
- 9. Movin' Day 3:25
- 10. Animal Hide and Seek 3:47
- 11. Home 3:30