

She sells seashells on the seashore...

words: terry sullivan
melody: chris bartram

1 2

She sells sea-shells on the sea-shore. The shells she sells are sea-shells I'm sure. If

5 3 4

she sells sea - shells on the sea— shore, then I'm sure she sells sea - shore shells.

She sells seashells on the seashore can be done as a 4-part round.
It should not be sung too quickly, to allow the "s" and "sh" sounds
to have their full effect.

The words were written in 1908 by Terry Sullivan, about Mary Anning (1799-1847). Anning was an early 19th century British fossil collector, dealer and paleontologist, who lived in Lyme Regis, and was responsible for some of the most important dinosaur fossil discoveries. Her sex and social class - her parents were poor religious dissenters (non-Anglican Protestants) - prevented her from fully participating in the scientific community of 19th century Britain, dominated as it was by wealthy Anglican gentlemen, and she did not generally receive full credit for her contributions and her knowledge. Although she became well known in geological circles in Britain, Europe and America, she struggled financially for much of her life. (See Wikipedia for a fascinating article about her life and accomplishments.)

This round would thus fit in well to any work on dinosaurs, discoveries, the historical lives of women, etc. Its tongue-twisting alliteration makes it very useful in English work.