

## Time to Shake A Tail Feather!

This activity is suitable for all ages!

When someone asks you to '**shake a tail feather**', they are wanting you to join them in a dance where you dance like a bird shaking their tail feathers!

You simply bend over, put your hands behind your back, wiggle your body and move your fingers like bird feathers moving.

**Ray Charles** (born 1930 and died 2004) was an African-American singer, song-writer, pianist and composer. His music was in the styles of soul, rhythm and blues, jazz, rock and roll and gospel. He lost his eyesight at the age of 7, but it didn't stop him going on to achieve huge success as a musician and being ranked as one of the greatest artists of all time.

He performed the song '**Shake a Tail Feather**' playing on a type of keyboard called a Hammond organ. The rest of the instruments being played by the band are trumpet, saxophone, guitar, bass guitar, drum-kit and tambourine.

There are lots of fun dance movements to try out in this song and below are some of them for you to try with the video. These dance movements were all very popular in the 1960's:

<b>Twist</b>	twist your whole body
<b>The Fly</b>	flap your arms like a bird/insect flying
<b>The Swim</b>	pretend you are swimming
<b>The Bird</b>	put hands on hips and move head forwards and backwards
<b>The Duck</b>	move arms up and down
<b>The Monkey</b>	move arms up and down faster
<b>The Frug</b>	kick your feet, clapping your hands above your head
<b>The Mashed Potato</b>	heels in and heels out
<b>The Boogaloo</b>	twist and shuffle your whole body

## ENJOY SHAKIN', GROOVIN' AND TWISTING!

*YouTube links to be added – Ray Charles Shake a Tail Feather with The Blues Brothers/  
Chicken Little by The Cheetah Girls Shake your Tailfeather (Walt Disney)*