

THE RIVER IS FLOWING

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The river, she is flowing

Flowing, and growing,

The river, she is flowing,

Down to the sea.

Mother, carry me,

A child I will always be,

Mother, carry me,

Down to the sea.

On the next page is the Salish version of the River song. It was translated for us by our elders,
Eva Boyd, Pauline Flett and Ann McCrea.

- The first line shows you the Salish spelling.
- The second line shows you the direct translation of each word.
- The third line shows you how to pronounce the words.
- As you sing along with the website recording it will become easier and easier for you.

hec mʔopmi ɬuʔ ntɬʷetkʷ
Is Flowing there River

(Approximate pronunciation under each line)

hec mʔopmi ɬuʔ ntɬʷetkʷ
Is flowing there river,
 hets mópe-uh-me thloo en-twéh-tcoo

hec mʔopmi pistletkʷ
Is flowing, growing
 hets mope-uh-me péace-tleh-etcoo

hec mʔopmi ɬuʔ ntɬʷetkʷ
Is flowing there river,
 hets mópe-uh-me thloo en-twéh-tcoo

qe naxʷɬt ɬuʔ č kʷtunt sewlʷkʷ
Us it-took there over-to big water
 ca naxcloot thloo ch kih-toont sehwlthkoo

Girls: tumʔ ↘
Boys: skʷuy ↘ **nʷem** **kʷeɬtmnt**
Mother will carry
Girls: Toom
Boys: Skoo-ee n-em qwélsh-tee-ment

nʷem nyifap m qeʔ sccmʷeɬt
Will unendingly be children
 Nʷehm knee-yahp em ca stih-tsih-melt

Girls: tumʔ ↘
Boys: skʷuy ↘ **nʷem** **kʷeɬtmnt**
Mother will carry
Girls: Toom
Boys: Skoo-ee n-em qwélsh-tee-ment

qe naxʷɬt ɬuʔ č kʷtunt sewlʷkʷ
Us it-took there over-to big water
 ca naxcloot thloo ch kw-toont sehwlthkoo

In the Salish language, the girls call their mother's **tumʔ** and the boys call their mother **skʷuy**. So when you come to that line of the song the girls and the boys will each use their Salish word for 'mother.'