

Humuhumu-nukunuku-a-pua'a

Words and music by Suzanne Niles

Easy chords for
uke or keyboard
(Key of C)



Song as recorded: Tempo 142, key of D-flat

This inconvenient key was chosen to fit my voice. To play in D-flat and match the video, use a capo at the first fret to raise the sound of these chords up a half-step, to C-sharp (= D-flat)

C **F**
Over in Hawaii there's a fish in the sea

G7 **C**
A crazy quilt of colors with a big lazy "V"

F **G7** **C** **F**
White and black and gold put together so fine

D7 **G7**
When you see it you'll agree it's simply divine!

Verse 1



C **F**
But 'though you might be dazzled by the way that he's dressed

G7 **C**
There's something more amazing that you wouldn't have guessed

F **G7** **C** **F**
A fancy-dancy name that doesn't know when to stop

G7 **C**
Your tongue will do the hula and your brain will go POP!

Verse 2



G7
When you say

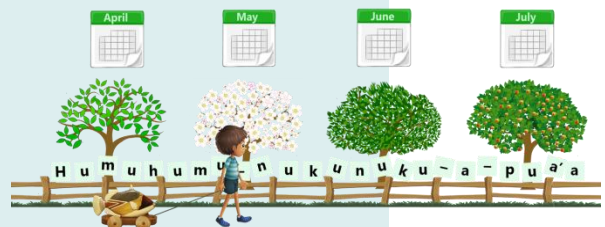
C **F**
Humuhumu-nukunuku-a-pua'a

G7 **C**
Sing-a-ling the longest name you ever saw.

C **C7** **F** **D7**
Humuhumu-nukunuku give it a try

G7 **C**
If you start in April you'll be done in July.

Chorus 1



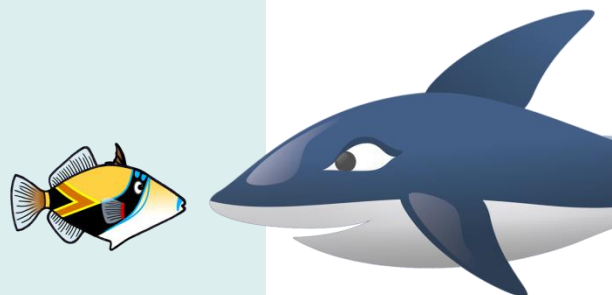
C **F**
He keeps his little trigger fin layin' down flat

G7 **C**
When trouble comes along he pops it open like that

F **G7** **C** **F**
It holds him in a hole so you can't pull him out

G7 **C**
And all that you can see is the tip of his snout.

Verse 3



A7
He's a ...

C **F**
Humuhumu-nukunuku-a-pua'a

G7 **C**
Painted like a picture from his tail to his jaw

C **C7** **F** **D7**
Humuhumu-nukunuku, how do you do?

G7 **C**
Tricky little triggerfish lookin' at you!

Chorus 2



F **G7** **C**
A classy little masterpiece under the waves

G7 **C**
Hangin' in the halls of the coral and caves

F **G7** **C** **F**
A dashing flash of color, then he's gone in a wink

D7 **G7**
But just one look and then you're hooked, and YOU'LL be tickled pink!

Bridge



G7
And you'll say ...

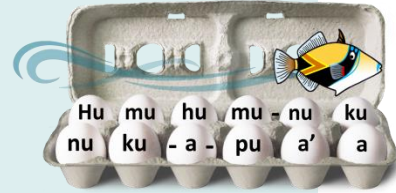
C Humuhumu-nukunuku — **F** look at him go!

Chorus 3

G7 A dozen little syllables all in a row **C**

C Humuhumu-nukunuku **C7** **F** **D7** clickety-clack

G7 A name like a train rollin' by on the track! **C**



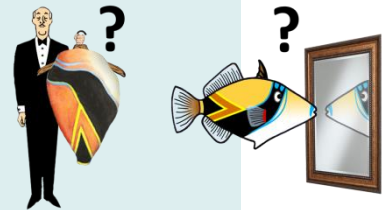
C Now try to guess the meaning — **F** what could it be?

Verse 4

G7 Something like “The Painted Fish” or “King of the Sea”? **C**

F A name to fit the fashion, the glamorous grace **G7** **C** **F**

D7 That fine designer suit or the fabulous face **G7**



G7 BUT NO! You see ...

C Humu has a front kinda rounded and blunt **F**

Verse 5

G7 And when he's out of water makes a sound like a grunt **C**

F So someone thought this gorgeous little fish-a-ma-jig **G7** **C** **F**

G7 Oughtta have a name that means ... **C** “A nose like a pig” !



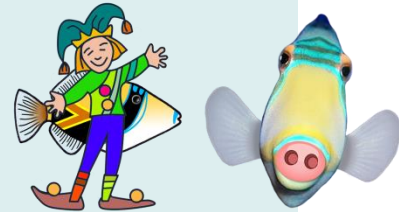
C **F**
Humuhumu-nukunuku-a-pua'a

G7 **C**
Sing-a-ling the longest name you ever saw

C **C7** **F** **D7**
Humuhumu-nukunuku jiggety-jig

G7 **C**
Clothes like a jester and a nose like a pig!

Chorus 4



C **F**
Humuhumu-nukunuku down by the beach

G7 **C**
A body like art and a name like a speech

C **C7** **F** **D7**
Humuhumu-nukunuku — give it a try

G7 **C**
If you start in April you'll be done in July!

Chorus 5



C
Humuhumu

F
Nukunuku

G7 **C**
A-pua'a — here we go

C (F)
Humuhumu

F (D7)
Nukunuku

G7 **C**
A-pua'a — now you know!

Outro



Chord Reminders

