I Need Data

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(to the tune of “The Macarena”)

It’s coming up soon, the application deadline
But you have nothing new, it’s all on Medline.
Old data isn’t good, it’s not like red wine.
Hey I need data.

So you head into your lab, got to talk to your lab crew.
But they’ve all gone home, it’s way past their curfew.
You look through their notes but you find nothing that’s new.
Hey I need data.

An idea pops up, the light bulb’s flashing
The earth is moving, the thunder’s crashing.
It really is perfect, it really is smashing,
Hey I need data.

There isn’t much time, you really are fretting
You’re thinking so hard, your brain is sweating.
You grab your pipettes and you start pipetting.
Hey I need data.

You mix up some reagents, you’ve got to get it right.
You spill it on the floor, it’s a terrible sight.
There’s no stopping now, you’re working all night.
Hey I need data.

You got to keep on going till you hit the jackpot
Or else all of your colleagues will think you’re a crackpot.
But what do you care, they’re all a hack lot.
Hey I need data.

You keep making changes, you keep revising.
You finally succeed as the sun is rising.
The solution was so simple, it was surprising.
Hey I need data.

The experiment worked, it’s an indication
You got the data for your grant application.

You’ll be rewarded for your dedication.
Hey I need data.

There’s just one thought that keeps gnawing at your brain
You forgot to run controls, you must start all again.
You grab up your result and you pour it down the drain.
Hey I need data.

(start at beginning again)

The Dance Steps:
1) Hands straight out, palms down, as if typing Medline searches.
2) Hands to head, scratch head and chin as if thinking hard.
3) Hands straight out, palms up, as if reading lab notebooks.
4) Hands to head, pull out some hair as if reacting to bad data in notebooks.
5) Hands out in fists, as if pipetting.
6) Flail hands around helplessly, as if watching experiment go down the tubes.
7) Hands to head again, pull out some more hair by the roots.
8) Jump in air, turn in random direction and start all over again from the beginning.

Repeat over and over and over until you pass out from exhaustion.