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Sing, Say, Dance, Play

Lessons that engage and encourage play in the general music classroom

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Up, Down, and Around

By Katherine Ayres

- > Activity 1: Reading the Book with Non-Locomotor Movements
 - Read the story allowing the students to explore all of the movement words through non-locomotor movements in their own self-space.
 - Other Options: Try it with scarves or ribbons. Try it while mirroring a friend.
- > Activity 2: Exploring Barred Instruments with the Book
 - Barred Instruments (Xylophones, Metallophones, Glockenspiels)
 - You can either set them up with all of the bars on or using a pentatonic scale.
 - Set expectations at the beginning: How to play, how to hold mallets, how to stop, etc.
 - Explore the barred instruments' high and low sounds. Practice playing up, down, and around.
 - Read the story again as students play the barred instruments on the words "up, down, around".

Apple Tree

Lesson from "Purposeful Pathways: Book 1"

- Activity: Pathway to Literacy & Pathway to Ensemble
 - Read rhythms using rhythm syllables.
 - Sing melody using solfa with hand signs.
 - Add text. Sing entire song while reading notation.
 - Prepare **broken bordun** with patting (alternating hands). Say "1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, stop" or "L, R, L, R, till we stop".
- > Activity: Pathway to Play
 - Explore different ways to move while collecting and/or cooking with apples. Use the woodblock **ostinato** as an example.



Students mime picking up apples, rhythmically speaking the ostinato.



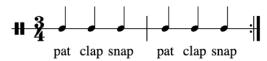
- Explore new ways to pick apples. (shake the tree, use a picker, climb the ladder up the tree, etc.)
- Add the students' ostinato to the song. Transfer to UTP.
- Activity: Game Adaptation "Who has the apple?"
 - Add the call "Who has the apple?" and the response "I have the apple" (SMLSM pattern) to the end of the song.
 - One student closes their eyes with their back to the class. Teacher or student gives the apple to a student during the song. The guesser has three chances to guess which student has the apple. The student with the apple gets to be the guesser.
- > Activity: Pathway to Composition
 - Students choose two building blocks and create a 4-beat rhythmic motive.
 - Practice speaking and clapping the pattern four times.
 - Transfer to pitched percussion using so, mi, and la.
 - o If students are successful with so, la, mi, consider adding do.
 - o Practice repeating the pattern four times on instruments.
 - Use the student-created ostinati as interludes to the A Section.
 - Create final form with combining as many of the pathways as you wish.

Sandy McNab

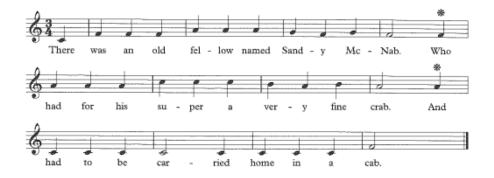
Lesson from "Purposeful Pathways: Book 3"



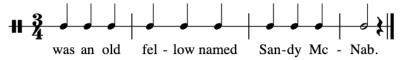
- > Activity 1: Exploring Meters
 - Students walk the beat as you play a low tone on a tubano, low drum, or temple blocks.
 - Students step the downbeat with the low tone and clap with the high tone.
 - Switch between meters in 2, 3, 4, and 5 and students identify the meters.
- > Activity 2: Pathway to Meter Meter in 3 with Anacrusis
 - Model BP in 3 and ask the students to join in when they are ready.



Sing the song as the students perform the BP.



- Ask the students which meter the pattern is in.
- o Teach the song through echo imitation while performing the BP.
- Students sing the song while keeping the BP pattern.
- Have a discussion about the strong beat, or down beat, on beat 1. Ask the students to listen for the first word or syllable that's sung on the strong beat/pat.
- Students read the rhythm and text.



- Point out that the word "was" falls on beat 1. That means the word "there" falls on beat
 3, before the first beat 1. We call this an anacrusis or pick up note.
- Ask the students to keep the BP pattern and listen to the song, paying attention to what words or syllables occur on beat 1.
- Students underline every word or syllable that falls on beat 1.
- Students keep the meter in 3 BP pattern and sing the song, while following the rhythmic notation.
- Introduce the term anacrusis or pick up note. Students circle every anacrusis or pick up note.
- Activity 3: Creating New BP Patterns in 3
 - o In small groups or with partners, have the students create a new BP pattern in 3.
 - Sing the song with new BP patterns.
 - Divide the class in half and have half of the students perform their new pattern in 3 for the other half then switch.
- > Activity 4: BP Pattern in 6 (Adaptation)
 - Teacher performs the pattern in 6 and students identify the number of beats in the pattern.



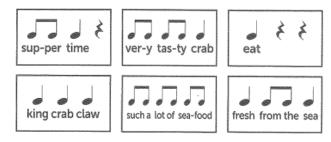
- Teach the pattern in two groups of 3.
 - Pat, chest, clap
 - RH, LH, Both (I teach these as "high-five with RH", "high-five with LH", "high-ten with both hands")
 - When up to speed I say "right, left, both" or "1, 2, 3"
- With a partner, have students practice the pattern with each other. <u>Warning</u>: This may seem chaotic but children need time to figure these things out. Go around and help when needed.
- Students practice the whole pattern with their partners as you either sing the song
 "Sandy McNab" or play it while giving the BP directions.
- <u>Elimination Game</u>: My students love elimination games but you can determine if that's appropriate for your students based on your community and school culture.
 - Start the song's tempo slow and students that perform the BP pattern correctly and on the beat stay in the game for the next round.
 - Increase the tempo each round.
 - Play again with all students.
 - Encourage students to practice over the week. They will and you'll see them practicing at recess, before school, after school, etc.

> Activity 5: Singing as a Round

- Sing the song in unison.
- Sing again and have the students start while you come in second for a 2-part round.
- Divide the class in half and sing as a 2-part round.
- When the students have mastered 2-part singing, this may take two weeks, divide the class into three groups and sing in a 3-part round.

> Activity 6: Composition in 3

• Students read the 3-beat **rhythmic building blocks**.



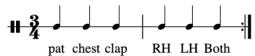
- Discuss which rhythmic building blocks are **cadences** or **connectors**.
 - All rhythms ending with a guarter note are cadences.
 - The only connector is "such a lot of seafood"

- As a class, guide the students as they compose a 12-beat phrase by choosing four rhythmic building blocks. They can repeat a pattern.
- Say the 12-beat pattern as an **ostinato**. Add BP to each rhythmic building block.
- o In small groups, students compose a 12-beat speech ostinato and add BP.
- o Perform all compositions at the same time as a group practice.
- Each group performs their 12-beat speech ostinato.
- Have the students give feedback with "I noticed", "I wonder", and "I appreciate/value".
- > Activity 7: Transfer Compositions to UPP/UTP
 - Using the class example 12-beat composition, transfer rhythms to UPP.
 - Students return to their compositions and convert their BP to UPP.
 - o Small groups perform their UPP ostinati for the class.

D'Hammerschmiedsg'selln (The Blacksmith Apprentice)

Austrian or Holland Folk Dance

- > Activity 1: Introducing the Song & BP
 - o Play the music and ask the students what meter they think the song is in.
 - Perform the BP with the music. If taught with Activity 4 from "Sandy McNab", students will recognize it right away.
 - Teacher performs the pattern in 6 and students identify the number of beats in the pattern.



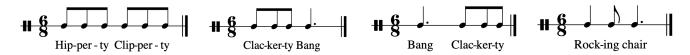
- Teach the **A section** pattern in two groups of 3.
 - Pat, chest, clap
 - RH, LH, Both (I teach these as "high-five with RH", "high-five with LH", "high-ten with both hands")
 - When up to speed I say "right, left, both" or "1, 2, 3"
- Students perform the BP pattern with the music in the air.
- With a partner, have students practice the pattern with each other.
- Students perform the **A section** BP with their partners with the music.
- B Section: Teach as right arm swing with their partners. At the end of the phrase, switch arms and perform left arm swing (8 bar phrases each)
- Perform the whole dance as A & B sections only for the first week.
- > Activity 2: Groups of 4
 - Review the dance from the previous week with a partner (A & B sections only).
 - Watch video of dance and ask students what they notice.

- Four people instead of two.
- Perform the BP pattern across from each other at different times to avoid collision in the middle when both hands go in at the same time.
- B section is different.
- A Section: In groups of 4, set up partners across from each other.
 - Students decide which set of partners start and which two come in second.
 - First set of partners begin with "pat, chest, clap". Second set start with "RH, LH, Both".
- B Section/Circle: Groups of 4 take hands and skip clockwise for 8 bars, then change direction and skip counterclockwise for 8 bars.
- C Section/Star: Each person puts RH into the middle and skips clockwise for 8 bars,
 then change direction and put LH into the middle and skip counterclockwise for 8 bars.
- Put whole dance together: **ABACAB**
 - Last B section could be another formation or have each group create a new formation.

Hipperty, Clipperty, Clackerty, Bang Lesson from "Purposeful Pathways: Book 2"



- > Activity 1: Exploring the Poem Through Locomotor Movements
 - Say the poem as the students keep the beat.
 - Ask "What do you think the poem is about?"
 - Say the poem again with the beat.
 - Students explore locomotor movements as the teacher says the poem to see what feels the most natural. (skip)
 - o Teach the BP with the poem.
- > Activity 2: Hand Drum Technique & Ostinato
 - Review the poem. Clap the rhythm of the words while saying it.
 - Review the BP from the previous week
 - Demonstrate the proper hand drum technique saying the ostinato, "Down, down, down, up, up, up"
 - Divide the class in half. Half of the class performs the poem on sticks while the other performs the ostinato on hand drums.
- > Activity 3: 4 Corners Game (Adaptation)
 - Teach four rhythms using speech.
 - Number each corner and assign each rhythm to a corner.



- One student is the guesser with their eyes closed and their back to the class.
- Student guesser keeps the beat on the drum throughout the poem, as the other students skip to a corner.
- At the end of the poem, the student plays or claps the rhythm of a corner.
- Choose a new guesser from the students that just got out.
- *You can also simply call out corner numbers the first week, if the students aren't ready to clap/play the rhythm.

REFERENCES

- *Up, Down, and Around* by Katherine Ayres, ISBN-10: 0763640174, ISBN-13: 9780545279352
- "Apple Tree", *Purposeful Pathways Book 1* by BethAnn Hepburn & Roger Sams, Music Is Elementary, SKU: BR1 (Used with permission)
- "Sandy McNab", *Purposeful Pathways Book 3* by BethAnn Hepburn & Roger Sams, Music Is Elementary, SKU: MUS-BR3-XX (Used with permission)
- "Hipperty Clipperty", *Purposeful Pathways Book 2* by BethAnn Hepburn & Roger Sams, Music Is Elementary, SKU: BR2 (Used with permission)