

Build Newsletter 16-03-26 Create a Dance Lesson Plan

Theme



16-03-26 Create a Dance Lesson Plan

www.Musicplayonline.com



**New this week:**  
The first 15 guitar songs are online!  
Songs 1-14 are all one chord songs - super easy for your beginning guitar players to play as no chord changing is needed. Song 17, Old Texas, is the first song that uses D and A. It's a good first song for changing, as you play each chord for 16 beats before switching.

**Now online:**  
Ask me take home printables for songs in Musicplay for Kindergarten. See song #6 in Kindergarten.  
- xylophone and metallophone with removable bars  
- search engine  
- solfa practice movies  
- rhythm practice movies (Like flashcards, but made into movies!)  
- Musicplay K-6 song movies: notation, lyrics, kids demos  
- Solfa challenge for all reading songs - name the solfa notes OR letter names  
- high/low, loud/quiet, fast/slow, etc games  
- pop quizzes to practice note names, dynamics terms/symbols, tempo terms, Fun!  
[LINK TO MUSICPLAYONLINE.COM](http://www.musicplayonline.com)

Create a Dance Lesson Plan

The newsletter this week was prompted by a question posed in the Musicplay Teacher's group:  
  
The theme for administrative walk throughs this week is problem-solving - how are we teaching this skill as well as fostering life long learners across the curriculum. I'm stumped to come up with an answer for my program - I teach K-2 music and dance. How do you teach problem solving skills to young students in music?

A wonderful Ontario teacher wrote: When we are involved in the creative process, we are involved in a number of skills, problem solving and critical thinking are two that link up to a lot of the current thinking about learning. Creativity requires us to problem solve. When we are composing, we begin to problem solve - it is where creativity can live and breath. Problem solving is a form of creativity. When we are making decisions about what instruments to play, when to play them, how to interact musically with others we are involved in critical thinking. Students make their thinking visible when they are involved in providing feedback while working through this process.  
  
More simply put, PROBLEM (challenge and inspire) - create a soundscape using only found sounds. SOLUTION ( imagine, generate, plan, explore, discuss, try possible solutions) - create a preliminary work using the creative process. - create a soundscape using found sounds.

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(real people answer our phones!)

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Website:  
[www.musicplay.ca](http://www.musicplay.ca)

Workshops

**June 2-3**  
**Fairbanks Alaska**  
**Teachers Academy**

**July 6-8, 2016**  
**Artie and Denise are**  
**Shakin it up in**  
**Chicago!**  
Join Artie and Denise for the 7th annual summer symposium! Two days of fabulous workshops and a day of sightseeing. Register Online [Click this LINK](#)

**March 19-21, 2016**  
**Preschool Workshop**  
**in Shanghai**

Denise Gagne is presenting the following sessions:  
1. Let's Get them Singing  
2. Beginning Music Literacy  
3. Rhythm Instrument Fun  
4. Music and Literacy  
5. Music and Movie  
6. Songs and Games for Special Days

**Feb. 25-27**  
**Kansas State MEA**  
1. Rhythm Instrument Fun  
2. Sensational Singing Games  
3. Listening Fun with Scarves, Tennis Balls and More!

**March 5, 2016**

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Don't think of it as you are teaching problem solving to students, instead, you are providing opportunities to allow for students to problem solve when they are creating music or creating dances.

Lesson - Musicplay 2  
Materials: Song #3 **Ridin that New River Train**  
If you don't have the Musicplay 2 binder, you can access the song at [www.musicplayonline.com](http://www.musicplayonline.com)

3. Ridin' That New River Train

CD1: 4-30      Objectives: beat, verse-chorus

rote song

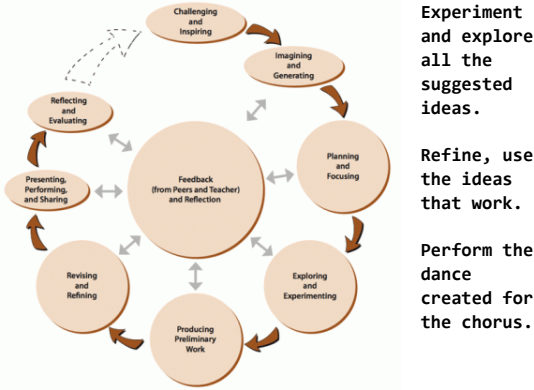
Traditional

1. Darlin', you can't love one.  
Darlin', you can't love one.  
You can't love one 'cause it isn't any fun. Darlin',  
you can't love one.
2. Honey, you can't love two.  
Honey, you can't love two.  
You can't love two and still be true.  
Honey, you can't love two.
- Chorus
3. Baby, you can't love three.  
Baby, you can't love three.  
You can't love three and still have me.  
Baby, you can't love three.
4. Sweetie, you can't love four.  
Sweetie, you can't love four.  
You can't love four, 'cause there isn't any more!  
Sweetie, you can't love four.

Procedure:

1. Teach the chorus of the song by rote.
2. Invite students to sing each phrase and count how many beats are in each. (8)
3. Tell the students that their challenge (problem) is to create a dance for verse one of the song. Form a circle and invite the students to think up ways that they could make a dance. Remind them that each phrase has 8 beats.
4. Try out the student ideas, and create a dance for verse 1. (For example: circle to the right for 8 beats, circle left for 8 beats, step in for 8 beats, step out for 8 beats)

This is the creative process as outlined in the Ontario arts document, and it's very similar to the process in the new core arts standards in the US.



5. Divide the class into 4-6 groups and challenge each group to create a dance for verses 2-5

**Spokane Orff Chapter**

- vocal warmups, energizers and name games
- back to school rules body percussion activity, instrument care rules, audience behavior
- review and teach concepts with singing games
- improvise and create with songs, poems, storybooks
- fun and easy listening ideas
- choral music your students and audiences will love

**April 2, 2016 Boston Kodaly Chapter**

**Singing Games and So Much More!**

In this session Denise will teach some of her favorite singing games and activities that will teach and reinforce the fundamentals in your music classes.

Extensions to the games will be shared that will help you get your students improvising and creating. We'll explore how apps and digital resources can be used in conjunction with manipulatives to teach basic concepts reaching all kinds of learners. Denise will share solfa exercises and games that will help your students to become literate musicians.

**August 2016**

Back to school workshops will give you ideas and inspiration for the new school year!

Edmonton: Aug. 19  
Calgary: Aug. 23  
Toronto: Aug. 25-26

**Tuesday, September 13, 2016**

Delaware MEA. This will be the 50th state where Denise has presented a workshop!

**Sept. 21-22-23**

Mississippi MEA

**Sept 24th tba**

Atlanta Orff Chapter

**Monday, October 10, 2016**

NJSMA Elementary Music Division

**Sessions to be chosen from the following:**

1. Rhythm Instrument Fun

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6. Perform the entire song using the chorus that the class created, and having each group(s) perform the verse they worked on. (If your class is large, more than one group may be working on a verse.)

After they have shared their creations, reflect on the performances. I noticed..... I wondered ....

Discuss where adults might be asked to create a dance. (wedding, party) This should help make them aware that music IS a lifelong activity!

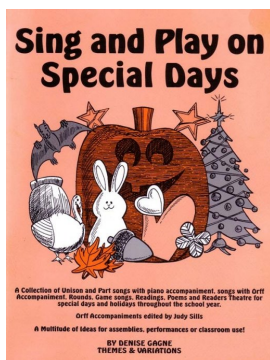
In math, you don't just give kids a problem and expect them to solve it. You model some examples first. It's good to keep the same process in mind in music - model an example, then challenge the students to create their own.

In Musicplay 1 you could use **#3 Little Red Wagon** to create a dance.

In K you could use **#6 You've Got to Sing** when the spirit says sing.

**Note: The lesson plans for Musicplayonline.com will be aligned to core arts (and Ontario curriculum) in this way.**

- From Sing and Play on Special Days  
Link to Free Resource



I wrote Sing and Play on Special Days in 1997 as a collection of fun songs, poems, games and activities to do on special days throughout the school year. In 2009 we created new recordings for the collection. The songs are timeless - lots of fun activities for your students. Many of the songs are in Musicplay K-5 with a few notable exceptions.

Link to Sing and Play USA teachers  
Canadian teachers - LINK to Sing and Play

## What's New?



**New App! Note Name Smash! Kids love to break things - in this app, students break a hole in the wall every time they correctly name a note. When they've successfully named all the notes, the wall crumbles. Have fun with Note Name Smash! .99 US in the app store now! LINK to APP**

## Alphabet Action Songs

If you have a pre-2009 version of the book, send me an email and I'll send you new stories and 3 new songs. I wrote a new song for F - Fin the Fish that is super fun! I also wrote a song for soft G - George the Giraffe and a new O song - Ollie Otter. email Denise at [denisegagne1@gmail.com](mailto:denisegagne1@gmail.com) and request updates to the Alphabet Action Songs.

## St Patrick's Day Jig Free Resource

Link to Free Resource

## Orff Source Vol. 2 Free Resources

Link to Free Orff Resource

Canadian Teachers - Links to Orff Source 1-2-3

Link to Orff Source 1

Link to Orff Source 2

Link to Orff Source 3

American Teachers - Links to Orff Source 1-2-3

2. Sensational Singing Games
3. Listening Fun with Scarves, Tennis Balls and More!
4. Vocal warmups and energizers
5. Developing the child's singing voice

**Thursday, October 13th**

Halifax Kodaly/Orff Chapters

Workshops with Denise are always fun and full of ideas! email [denise@musicplay.ca](mailto:denise@musicplay.ca) to request a workshop!

## Resources

What else is new at Themes?



Easy Music Theory is a mu

sic theory book for beginning band, choral, general music classes or for teachers who teach private lessons. A class set of 25 is only \$100 - \$4 each. You can't photocopy a set of theory worksheets for \$4! The teacher's guide includes multiple choice tests that correlate to the sections of the student books - your assessment is done for you!

**Easy Guitar Songs - Teacher's Guide and Student Books**



**The Easy Guitar Teacher's Guide and Student Book**

is a great song collection to teach young beginners to sing and strum on the guitar. The teacher's Guide includes introduction to guitar, music, lyrics, chords and chord charts. It includes 25 folk songs with perf/acc CD, Digital Resources. Kids want to play pop songs - so we've included links to 25 very easy pop songs on YouTube that your students can play with. Order a classroom kit for \$100 that includes a teacher's guide and 25

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**Link to Orff Source 1**  
**Link to Orff Source 2**  
**Link to Orff Source 3**

**LINK to FREE RESOURCES:** Feb. 22, SMART Rhythms Free

**Link to: WEBCAST on Smart Rhythms 2**

**LINK to FREE RESOURCES:** Feb. 22, Smart Rhythms

**Purchase Download Smart Rhythms 2 (US)**

**Purchase Download Smart Rhythms 2 (Canada)**

The **Musicplay K-6 Curriculum** is sequential, affordable and aligns with state and provincial curriculum from Texas to Ontario! To learn more about this curriculum view our webcast:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QqisGcwAXwM>

While Musicplay is affordable, we realize that some schools have no budget at all except what the music teacher can fundraise for! Apply for a grant to assist with the purchase of Musicplay!  
<http://shop.musicplaytext1.ihoststores.com/category.aspx?categoryID=32#grants>

We've posted sample lessons with audio embedded and video links so you can try a weekly lesson for any grade. We've also posted the correlations from Musicplay to the Texas TEKS - 100% alignment.  
<http://shop.musicplaytext1.ihoststores.com/custom.aspx?id=23>

Workshops with Denise Gagne are always fun and very practical. If you're coming to TMEA this year, plan to attend the showcase sessions with Denise on Thursday/Friday - I'll be sharing different lessons from Musicplay. I look forward to seeing you there!

## 7th Annual Artie and Denise Music Symposium

**July 6-8, 2016 Chicago**

Join Artie Almeida and Denise Gagne for a 2 day elementary music conference that will give you ideas and inspiration for teaching your elementary music classes.

**Clinics will be chosen from:**

### Artie Almeida

- \* Sing! Sing! Sing! Song based games & lessons
- \* Kid Stix and Drum Fun
- \* Exploring the Instruments of the Orchestra
- \* Chutes and Ribbons and Scarves, Oh My!
- \* Concept Collage (1 and 2)
- \* Hooked on Books
- \* Singing Fun and Games
- \* More Mallet Madness
- \* Fun Foundations for Recorder
- \* AND MORE!

### Denise Gagne

- \* Singing Games that Teach!
- \* APPs your students will love
- \* Sing me a Story - Storybook Fun!
- \* Rhythm instrument Fun
- \* Ukelele and Guitar is Fun!!!
- \* Listening Fun
- \* Assessment Made Easy
- \* Choral repertoire for Young Choirs
- \* Easy dances for the music class!
- \* AND MORE!

Cost: \$150 for workshop handouts - Teachers will receive a years subscription to Musicplay Online! Videos of the workshop will be made available to all participants.

Register Online at [www.musicplay.ca](http://www.musicplay.ca)

## Recorders

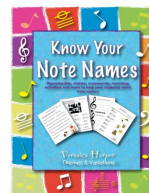
There's still lots of time to start recorders with your students. Our recorders are still \$6 for the Handel and \$7 for a Yamaha. If you order 10+ we will include the cost of the tax and the shipping.

Our \$10 package includes either a Handel or a Yamaha recorder, The Recorder Resource student book and CD.

student books. The student books/CD are only \$5 ~ you couldn't copy the book/CD for that!

### Know Your Note Names

Learning the letter names of the notes is a very helpful skill for students who are beginning the recorder.



Includes 50 reproducible pages of kid-tested activities to help your students learn their note names in the treble and bass clef. A wide variety of reproducible activities are included: create a word, matching, silly stories, crosswords, games and flashcards.

**\$10 Recorder Packages**  
 For our Canadian Teachers, we still offer the \$10 Recorder Package - a Handel or a Yamaha Recorder, The Recorder Resource Student Book AND CD  
 - order 10+ Packages and we pay the tax and shipping. With the drastic change in the US dollar, we may have to increase prices, but we're hoping to keep the \$10 package available as long as possible!



**Link to \$10 Package**

- [HANDEL GERMAN RECORDER](#)

Link to \$10 Package

- [Yamaha Baroque Recorder](#)

Recorders, Books and other packages are available! Visit [www.musicplay.ca](http://www.musicplay.ca) and select Recorders.

LINK to FREE RESOURCES: [Jan. 25 Free Recorder Resources!](#)

## APPS

We've created SIX great apps for iPad or Google devices. If you have a class set of iPads, volume purchasing is available for these apps. [LINK INFO](#)



### Vocal Warm-ups for Singers or Choir

This app is based on the warmups book, "Strictly Warmups" by Kerry Heisler. The warm-ups in this collection are organized into five sets. Each set includes a physical warm-up, breath awareness, then five minutes of a variety of mid-range warm-ups. [Vocal Warmups - iTunes](#)  
[GOOGLE PLAY](#)

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**Recorder Resource Kit** - the best resource for teaching recorder! Includes

- reproducible student pages with regular notes
- reproducible student pages with kids notes --- really helps weak readers
- CD
- note name flashcards
- mad minutes



**Learn and Play Recorder** has everything that you need for your beginning recorder classes.

[Recorder App iTunes](#)  
[Recorder App Google](#)



**Rain Rain Story** - is a sound story book that uses the Rain Rain Go Away song, and a poem for students to accompany. This app includes ear training activities and instrument exploration. [Rain Rain Story app \(iTunes\)](#) [Rain Rain - Google](#)

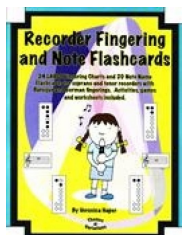
Available as an app!  
 Learn and Play Recorder APP

### Piano/Orff accompaniments are available:



Recorder 1 Orff & Piano:  
[www.musicplay.ca](http://www.musicplay.ca) (Canada)

Recorder 1 Orff & Piano:  
[www.musicplay.ca](http://www.musicplay.ca) (USA)



This kit includes 24 large (8.5 x 11) fingering charts and 20 note name flashcards (4.24 x 5.5) that can be used with any classroom recorder program. The flashcards feature Baroque and German fingerings for soprano or tenor recorders. The flashcards are on colored card stock and can be used as flashcards or displayed on a bulletin board. Activities, games, reproducible worksheets and a fingering chart are included.

Recorder Fingering Charts: [www.musicplay.ca](http://www.musicplay.ca) (Canada)

Recorder Fingering Charts: [www.musicplay.ca](http://www.musicplay.ca) (USA)



**Note Name Match Game** - 10 levels of Memory to match notes with their letter names. Great for recorder students, piano lessons, beginning band. [Note Name Match Game \(iTunes\)](#) [Note Name Memory \(Google\)](#)



**Learn and Play Recorder 2** is now available for iTunes and Android devices! This app gives your recorder players 24 songs for two part soprano with optional alto. Naming notes is reviewed, now with interactive practice! Counting music is reviewed, with an interactive name the note value activity. The full score with both regular alto and transposed alto for teachers to project is included. [Learn and Play Recorder 2 App \(iTunes\)](#) [Google Play- Learn Recorder 2](#)

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