

Holiday ORTF SOURCE

Compiled by Stacy Werner

Published by Themes & Variations



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Teacher's Guide

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Abbreviations

V	voice
R	recorder
SR/AR	soprano recorder/alto recorder
SG/AG	soprano glockenspiel/alto glockenspiel
AX/AM	alto xylophone/alto metallophone
BX/BM	bass xylophone/bass metallophone
tone cluster	play any two of the notes given
canon	a melody is imitated at a specific time

Notes for Teachers

Notes on Orff Process by Judy Sills

The fundamental success of the Orff approach to music education is that it is based on community. That is to say that everything is taught to everybody.

- present the song in its totality
- teach the melody on a neutral syllable
- repeat the melody phrase by phrase, accumulating the phrases until the entire melody is learned
- teach the words repeating the text several times using a variety of vocal inflections, dynamics, and tempi until it is secure
- add accompaniment parts one at a time beginning with the bass. Each part should be learned by everyone, preferably as body percussion patterns first, followed with a transfer to the instruments
- add movement if appropriate
- always remember to allow opportunities for creative input from the children
- finish with a final performance which incorporates the song with orchestration, movement, and creative opportunities such as improvisation between verses of the song

Remember that the songs and orchestrations are only a basis to provide each teacher with a framework. It is within this framework that teachers choose and adapt materials to fit the particular needs of their classes. Students with some experience playing Orff arrangements should be encouraged to create their own.

Every teacher using this resource may perform the pieces in a unique and different way. Adapt and arrange the songs and activities to meet the needs of the students in your community!



Snowflakes

Suggested Grade Level: PreK-1

Rhythm: ♩ ♪

Melody: do-re-mi-so

Harmony: I (V)

Timbre: SG/AG, BX/BM

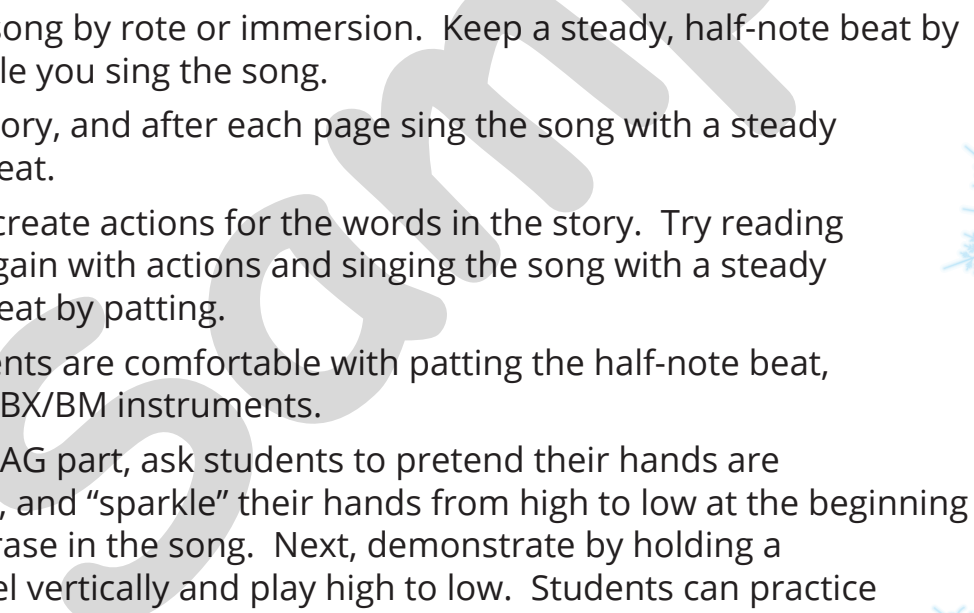
Phrase Form: a b or a a'

Teaching Suggestions:

Literature Connection:

Millions of Snowflakes by Mary McKenna Siddals and Illustrated by Elizabeth Sayles
ISBN: 0395715318

Orff Instrument Preparations: Remove bars E and B on the Orff instruments.

1. Teach the song by rote or immersion. Keep a steady, half-note beat by patting while you sing the song.
 2. Read the story, and after each page sing the song with a steady half-note beat.
 3. As a class, create actions for the words in the story. Try reading the story again with actions and singing the song with a steady half-note beat by patting.
 4. Once students are comfortable with patting the half-note beat, transfer to BX/BM instruments.
 5. For the SG/AG part, ask students to pretend their hands are snowflakes, and “sparkle” their hands from high to low at the beginning of each phrase in the song. Next, demonstrate by holding a glockenspiel vertically and play high to low. Students can practice playing this way, then explain that the higher bars are small and the low bars are big. Set up the glockenspiel the correct way and students play any notes moving high to low at the beginning of each phrase.
 6. For a performance, students can speak the words to the book with actions and play instruments/sing the song between each page of the story.
- 

Snowflakes

Stacy Werner

Voice

SG/AG

BX/BM

Snow - flakes fall - ing to the ground.

(start on the highest note, gradually moving down the instrument, ending on the lowest note)

Detailed description: This system contains three staves. The top staff is for Voice, the middle for SG/AG, and the bottom for BX/BM. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 3/4. The voice part has the lyrics 'Snow - flakes fall - ing to the ground.' The SG/AG part features a descending melodic line with a wavy texture, starting on a high note and ending on a low note. The BX/BM part consists of a simple accompaniment of quarter notes.

V.

SG/AG

BX/BM

⁵

Snow - flakes fall - ing all a - round.

Detailed description: This system contains three staves. The top staff is for Voice, the middle for SG/AG, and the bottom for BX/BM. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 3/4. The voice part has the lyrics 'Snow - flakes fall - ing all a - round.' The SG/AG part continues the descending melodic line from the first system. The BX/BM part continues the simple accompaniment. A small '5' is written above the first note of the voice staff.

