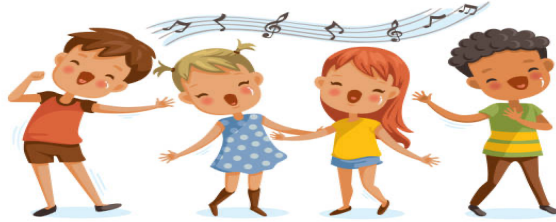


SINGING FUN 'N GAMES

Utah Music Educators Association, 2024

Clinician: Artie Almeida, Ed.D.



Join your colleagues in lessons that will have your students singing joyfully, while addressing audiation, melody direction, intervals, steady beat, and phrases. These fun and challenging opportunities include both primary and intermediate level lessons to encourage musical growth in unique ways.

1. Chumbara (French-Canadian nonsense song)

Source: *Singing Fun and Games!* (Publication by Almeida)

Focus: Octave, Melodic Direction and Intervals, Diction

Materials: Three bags filled with nonsense syllables (see projectable visual for details)

Process: Teach the song with original verse of nonsense syllables. Focus on descending scale line and octave skips. In a subsequent lesson, prepare three bags of nonsense syllables for children to use in constructing new words. Bag One should contain word fragments that begin with consonants, Bag Two should contain cards of one single vowel, Bag Three should contain word fragments that begin with a consonant and end in a vowel.

Chum-ba - ra, chum - ba - ra, chum - ba - ra, chum - ba - ra, chum - ba - ra, chum - ba - ra,

4
chum - chum - chum - chum - chum - chum - chum - chum, chum - ba - ra, chu - ba - ra,

6
chum - ba - ra, chum - ba - ra, chum - ba - ra, chum - ba - ra chum chum!

2. Swimming (Camp Song)

Source: *Singing Fun and Games!* (Almeida). I learned this song at Girl Scout Camp. ☺

Focus: Melody, Audiation

Process: Display visual and sing song for students, then invite students to sing the song with you. Be sure to emphasize that this is not a “take-away-the-words” song, but rather a “keep-them-in-your-head” song. Each projected slide highlights the new words to internalize, in an additive fashion. (See next page for notation)



Swimming, Swimming

4 bar intro

Traditional, adapted by Artie Almeida

Swim - ming, swim - ming, in my swim - ming pool. When
days are hot, when days are cold, in my swim - ming pool.
Back - stroke, side - stroke, fan - cy div - ing too!
Don't you wish you nev - er had an - y - thing else to do? (But)

3. The Cat Opera (Rossini): Kitty Responders

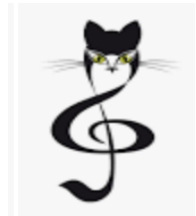
Source: Lesson/Responder idea by Debbie Clifton, used with permission.

Focus: Vocal Timbres, Opera, Duet, Melody Direction

Materials: A class set of two cats for each student, in two different colors

Process: Lead the class in listening, with teacher using boy/girl kitty responders to show the melody direction. Distribute cat responders to students and repeat the listening experience. There are several good YouTube videos of this piece.

Practice! Practice! Practice for this one! ☺



4. There's a Spider on the Floor (Book and Song by Raffi. Tune: "If You're Happy & You Know It")

Source: *Singing Fun and Games!* (Publication by Almeida)

Focus: Melodic Direction, Rhyming Words, Phrases

Materials: A plastic toy spider for each student, or paper spiders (see visual for master to copy)

Process: Seat children on floor in a scattered formation. Distribute toy (or paper) spiders for engagement. Create many verses, then allow small groups of students to create their own rhyming verses and sing for their classmates.

5. Long-Legged Sailor

Source: *Singing Fun and Games!* (Publication by Almeida)

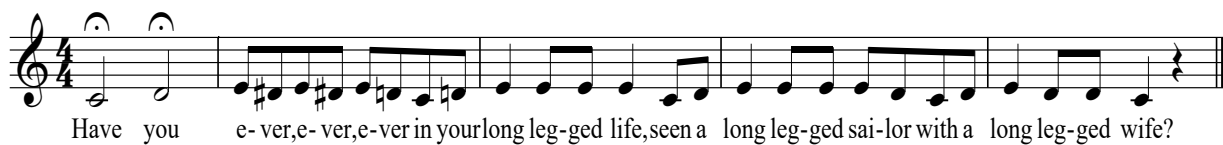
Focus: Steady Beat, Body Percussion Patterns, Tuneful Singing, Working Well with Partners

Materials: Cards to use as humorous replacement words for "sailor."

Process:

- Add the following song motions step-by-step:
 - Sing the song and **spread arms wide** on each sung word "long."
 - Continue with the previous motion on the words "long," and add to them (in order) from the directions below:
 - **Do a drumroll on lap** during "Have you" and **strike lap** on "ever", then do another drumroll on lap during "No, I've" and strike lap again on "never."
 - Repeat the song with all those motions and add a **lap pat** on each sung word "wife." It happens quickly and will be challenging for the kiddos at first!
 - **Begin the full pattern below** with the children and repeat it a few times to help them feel comfortable:
 - "Have . . . you . . ." (drumroll on lap)
 - "ever" (strike lap with both hands)

- “ever” (clap your own hands)
 - “ever” (push hands out in front of you, like clapping a partner’s hands)
 - “in your” (clap your own hands)
 - “long” (arms out wide to your sides)
 - “legged” (clap your own hands)
 - “life” (push hands out in front of you, like clapping a partner’s hands)
 - “seen a” (clap your own hands)
 - “long” (arms out wide to your sides)
 - “legged” (clap your own hands)
 - “sailor” (push hands out in front of you, like clapping a partner’s hands)
 - “with a” (clap your own hands)
 - “long” (arms out wide to your sides)
 - “legged” (clap your own hands)
 - “wife” (pat lap with both hands)
- Continue these same motions with verse #2: “No, I’ve never, never, never, in my long-legged life, seen a long-legged sailor with a long-legged wife!” Dramatic facial expressions will really bump up the fun!
 - Replace “sailor” with some silly substitution words listed in the visual. Invite children to suggest silly 2-syllable words to use. Some favorite substitution words for “Sailor” include: Skeeter, Cockroach, Meatball, Pizza, Baby & Eyeball! ☺



About the Clinician

Artie Almeida, Ed.D., recently retired after 38 years of public-school teaching. She was the music specialist at Bear Lake Elementary in the Orlando, Florida area, where she taught 1200 K-5 students. Her dynamic performing groups have performed for NAfME, AOSA, Walt Disney World, American Express International and on the NBC Today Show. Artie’s accolades include Florida Music Educator of the Year, Runner-Up for Florida Teacher of the Year, International Educator 2006 (Cambridge UK Biographical Society), school level Teacher of the Year six times, Runner-Up for Florida Teacher of the Year & University of Central Florida Alumni of the Decade.

Artie was an adjunct professor of music education at the University of Central Florida, saxophone instructor at Valencia State College, Music & Movement instructor at Seminole State College and a saxophone performer and instructor. She performed early music on historical wind instruments with Ars Antiqua and the Halifax Consort. Artie presents music education symposia throughout the world and her 32 elementary music resource books celebrate innovative & dynamic delivery systems for K-5 music instruction. Artie’s theme for teaching young children is ***Heavy Academics: Delivered Joyfully!***