

Music Lesson

by Dr. Kirk Kassner



Lesson Name: Twinkle Little Star

For Grades: K, 1, 2

National Standard Goals:

1. Singing, 2. Playing, 5. Reading, 6. Listening/Analyzing, 7. Evaluating, 9. Relating music to history and culture.

Materials Needed: recording of Twinkle and Alphabet Song, visuals for Twinkle, barred instruments & mallets, recording of Mozart variations on *Ah, vous dirai-je, Maman*.

Procedure:

Quadrant 1: Why?

1. Play the recorded introduction for Twinkle. Ask if anyone can name that tune. [accept Twinkle and the ABC song or the Alphabet song as correct.] Explain: we are going to learn to read symbols for the song and to play it on barred instruments.

Quadrant 2: What?

2. Have students sit on the floor close to the board to be able to see the visual for Twinkle (without letter names). Play the recording and sing through the song while pointing to the symbols.
3. Ask student to tell what word each symbol stands for [star shape = star, ? = wonder, ○ = world, ◇ = diamond]. Sing the song again, with a student pointing to each symbol as the class sings.
4. Allow one or two others to point at the symbols (until all students understand the connection of symbol with sound) as the class repeats singing of the song.
5. Ask the students if they see any patterns repeating in the symbols [phrase 1 and 3 are the same, phrase 2 has the same downward direction in the world and diamonds].
6. Put up the other visual (with letters) next to the first visual. Ask who can see what is different in the new visual [the second one has letters]. Sing the letter names (unaccompanied) while teacher points to each letter.
7. Sing the song with letters once or twice more, letting a student point to the letters.
8. Demonstrate how Twinkle is played on the bars by placing a large bar set in front of the room and removing the B bar. Explain that there are two sets of bars on each instrument so that two people can play at the same time. Ask for a volunteer to echo the teacher. Play each half-phrase and have the student echo.

Quadrant 3: How?

8. Ask captains and assistant captains to get one bar set each and place in front of their groups. Remove the B bar and put it on the floor.
9. Ask captains assign two people per bar set and teach the song, half-phrase by half-phrase.

