

Into The Wild:

Exploring the Creative Process With Orff Schulwerk

Let Me Introduce Myself!




Movement Warm Up: Mindful Animals



- ★ Mindful Animals pose cards with great movement descriptors
- ★ Opens exploratory opportunity
- ★ Brings awareness to more than just hands/arms
- ★ Can print your own (i.e. with pose visuals instead for non readers) or other mindfulness yoga pose cards are available on Amazon
- ★ Music used --Saint-Saens: Carnival of the Animals~Tortues (Tortoises) and L'Elephant (The Elephant)

The Sloth

- ★ Introduce song by rote (repetition repetition repetition!)
- ★ 6/8 feel- get into the rocking boat sensation
- ★ Teach drum and clave parts whole group style
- ★ Interact with the song in different ways on different days!
- ★ Bordon: E and B are 'do' and 'sol'
- ★ Improvisation time!
 - Possible 'B' section
 - [E] Phrygian mode
 - Question and Answer form (Answer always ends on E)



"The Sloth" by Theodore Roethke

IMITATION

- Song and parts taught directly
- Teaching whole group each part
- Repeating multiple times for practice

EXPLORATIO

- Allowing part choice or rotation
- Can it be played faster? Slower? Quieter? Louder?
- Use snaps or claps before instruments

IMPROVISATION

- Added "B" section on xylophones
- 12 beat patterns (2 groups of 6)
- "Questions" and "Answers"

COMPOSITION


- Performers choice of form, instruments used, who plays what part etc.
- "B" section can be memorized or written

Animal Compositions

- Present Animal + Mood Prompt Cards (e.g., "Sloth – Excited," "Parakeet – Sleepy,"), or student choice
 - Goal: create a short piece that captures your animal's personality and chosen mood through sound, rhythm, and movement
- Brainstorm & Explore Sounds (5–10 minutes)
 - Groups experiment with:
 - Speech: Create a short chant or rhythm from the animal's name or behaviors. e.g., "Creep, creep, pause..." for a sneaky squirrel.
 - Body Percussion: Match movements to the animal's style (e.g., fluttering fingers for wings).
 - Instruments: Choose 1–2 instrument families (pitched/unpitched). Explore tone color that matches the animal
- Choose Structure + Combine/Rehearse (10 minutes)
 - ABA – Two similar sections with a contrasting middle
 - Ostinato + Solo – A repeating pattern with featured improvisation
 - Call and Response – One "animal" calls, the other responds

Performance Time!

- ★ Always take time for reflection
 - I value
 - I notice
 - I wonder
- ★ Thoughts? Questions?



THANK YOU!

Feel free to reach me whenever at: myoung@pusdk8.us

The Sloth

A phrygian tune

Chris Mello and Mikaela Young

Melody

Glockenspiel

Unpitched Percussion

Bass Xylophone

This musical score is for the piece 'The Sloth' by Chris Mello and Mikaela Young. It is written in 6/8 time and features four staves. The Melody staff is in treble clef and contains the lyrics: 'In mov - ing slow he has no Peer You'. The Glockenspiel staff is in treble clef and contains a series of eighth notes. The Unpitched Percussion staff is in 6/8 time and contains a series of eighth notes. The Bass Xylophone staff is in treble clef and contains a series of eighth notes.

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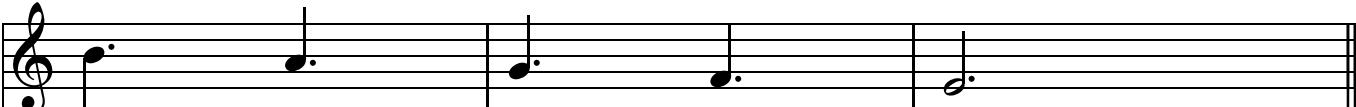
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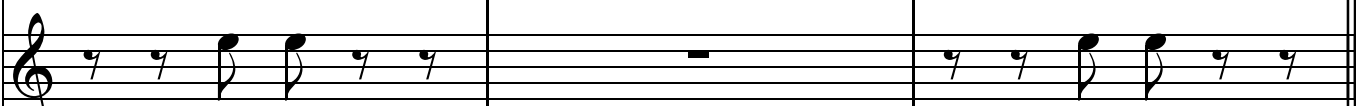
SG


UP

BX

This musical score is for the piece 'The Sloth' by Chris Mello and Mikaela Young. It is written in 6/8 time and features four staves. The Pno. staff is in treble clef and contains the lyrics: 'ask him some - thing in his Ear. He thinks a -'. The SG staff is in treble clef and contains a series of eighth notes. The UP staff is in 6/8 time and contains a series of eighth notes. The BX staff is in treble clef and contains a series of eighth notes.

Pno.  bout it for a Year.

SG 

UP 

BX 