

Sound Exploration Lesson

Letting children explore can be scary. Our first instinct is that they will take it too far and all “stuff” will break loose. When children are given the opportunity to explore with parameters, two things will happen. The first is that the adult will still have the needed control of the class and the second is that the children will be able to learn in a fun and relaxed environment where there are no wrong answers!

NAFME Content Standard : 1 Singing Alone and with Others, a Varied Repertoire of Music

OBJECTIVE:

- Students will practice proper singing technique
- Students will explore sound with their voices

MATERIALS

- A slide whistle
- Set of Note Knacks

METHODS

1. Have kids echo the sounds you make on a slide whistle
2. Pull out Note Knacks and have children choose a Note Knack
3. Drag their finger across it while they make a “LA” sound using their best singing voice on any given tone (This is using Phase 1 of Note Knacks Lesson Plans)
4. Talk about ways you can sing many tones like they just did with the slide whistle
5. You can also take this time to talk about high and low sounds. In improvising, you can have fun hitting both ends of the spectrum!
6. Now using that same Note Knack, have kids drag their finger across singing many sounds consecutively for the duration of that Note Knack
7. The idea is to give kids the option of exploring their voice, but to do it for a specific length of time. This also reinforces the idea that notes represent lengths of sound.

THOUGHTS

- You can partner kids up and have them do a question and answer session. One child improvises on his/ her Note knack ending on a high sound. Then the other child improvises on his/ her Note Knack ending on a low sound.