

## Orff Schulwerk: Improvisation in the Elementary Music Classroom



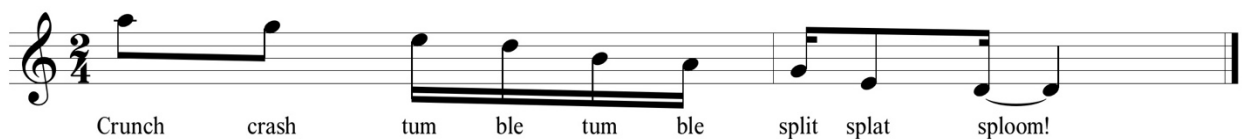
### Bedtime at the Swamp

Kristyn Crow

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### Concepts: Melodic Improvisation

- T reads book; isolates words “Splish Splash Rumba Rumba Bim Bam Boom!”
- S chant and pat rhythm of words for each repetition
- At barred instruments, S set up in G pentatonic
- S improvise rhythm
- S find G *simple (chord) bordun*
- S play bordun during stanzas, improvise rhythm of “splish splash”
- Tremolo on low D during *long page*
- When children fall out of the tree, S walk down from high A to low D



## Erstes Spiel am Xylophon, pg. 16, #28

### Movement Development

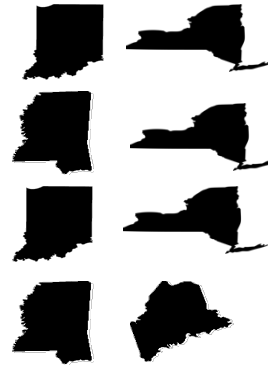
T shows S map of the United States

S brainstorm states with 4 syllables (continue with 3, 2, and 1)

T isolates two 4-syllable states, one 2-syllable, and Maine)

T shows several patterns of state names, S chant

T shows final pattern, S chant; repeat



In groups of 4-6, S create movement to go with rhythmic pattern

Must use TRAVELLING (locomotor) movement for “Indiana” and “Mississippi”  
 and STATIONARY movement for “New York” and “Maine”

Groups share movement creations

### Melodic Development

At barred instruments, S set up in C pentatonic (No F’s or B’s)

T process melody and simple moving bordun

T has groups volunteer to come perform their movement while melody is played

T process B section while movement groups create new 16 beat movement

### Performance

Piece is played in ABA form

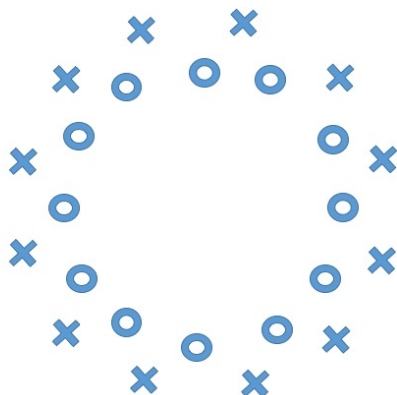


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## Cry of the Celts (From Michael Flatley's "Lord of the Dance")

Class forms concentric circle with partner

Outside circle shifts to the left one step so that each person is in a "window"



Clap RH with partner 4x, LH with "other" partner 4x; repeat

Outside skip in through windows, inside skip out through windows 3 beats, clap on beat 4

Skip back out to original spot, clap on 4

Side together Side together to the left, sideways skip back right to passing old window and going to new window

With partner, outside claps 8 beat question, inside gives 8 beat answer

With NEW partner, outside claps 8 beat question, inside answer 8 beats

Repeat dance



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## “Rhythmische Übung #52”

- S in circle
- T begins with body percussion pattern; S echo
- T adds levels of body percussion; S echo
- T begins RU 52; process by “skeleton rhythm”
- S listen to entire pattern
- S perform
- S “domino partner”; practice giving partner 4-beat BP echo patterns
- S practice 8-beat patterns with repeat
  
- T reads poem “A Fish in School – Jack Prelutsky”
  
- S clap rhythm of poem
- Repeat, adding pats
- Repeat, adding stamps
- Repeat, adding snaps
- With partner, decide on a way to perform the rhythm using at least 3 layers of BP
  
- Final form – RU, Partner BP, RU (ABA form)



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Score

# Fun With Poetry

Based on RU #52

J. Southard

Fine

D.C. al Fine

\* A special "Thank You" to West Music for sponsoring this session. Most of the materials used in this session can be found at their booth, so please stop by!