



MUSIC & CHILDREN'S LITERATURE: A NOTEWORTHY PARTNERSHIP!



Clinician: Artie Almeida, Ed.D.

Florida Elementary Music Educators Association, January 2020

Download visuals for this clinic from my website: www.artiealmeida.com. Click on "Teacher Resources" then "Teacher Downloads" and scroll to the bottom, for folder titled "F20." Folder will be removed on January 21st.

1. Book: Mama Built a Little Nest (Author: Jennifer Ward) (Pair with Lesson #2).

Focus: Melody, AB Form. Choose 7 or 8 bird breeds to feature. The teacher sings each verse, then children respond with refrain. Birdie whistles add a brief, warbled "Coda" after each performance. *Music Notation is in the PPT in the online folder.* Consider adding xylophones: roll tonic on teacher solo, play descending melody line (last 5 notes), roll tonic softly while bird whistles finish the coda.

2. Little Bird (Lesson idea by Kriske & Delles from their publication *2nd Rhyme Around*. Used with permission. Modified Almeida) **Focus: AB Form, Timbre.** *Music Notation is in the PPT.* Prepare the room with birds' nests (clip art on cardstock) in a circle, place an interesting percussion instrument "in" each nest. I use small hand percussion as well as larger things like bongos, temple blocks, cajon drums, log drums, etc. A section: Children sing song, while seated at nests, playing three quarter notes at end of each phrase. B Section: they place instruments back in nests, stand and "Shake it to the east, shake it to the west, shake it on over 'til you find another nest!" On the word "nest" they jump to the next nest on their right and begin warming up the new instrument. I accompany this on guitar, although the B Section is also lots of fun with a suspended cymbal playing a swing rhythm. Consider variations including: Teeny Tiny Birdies, Big Honkin' Birdies, Robot, Mad, Sad, Whispering, Staccato, Legato, etc.

3. The Old Chisholm Trail: A Cowboy Song (Author: Rosalyn Schanzer) (Pair with Lessons #4 & #5)

Focus: AB, Verse/Refrain, Melody. Teacher sings verse and refrain for students. During a second demonstration, the students join in singing on refrain. When refrain is secure, pass out stick horses. Students and horsies face front, holding heads high, for teacher solos (all verses) then ride/sing on each refrain. Song notation is available in folk song collections online. Melody in back of book is slightly different than the traditional version. A lyrics page is provided in the PPT.

4. Ridin' in a Buggy (American Folk Song)

Focus: ABA form. Teach song, focusing on form. I accompany the singing with temple blocks. Children get a partner and form a circle, facing to the right, shoulder-to-shoulder with their partner. They hold a single stick horse between them as they "ride" (trot) in their carriage around the circle on A section. On the B section they stop, lay the horse down join hands & swing arms to the macro-beat. Repeat A. For an interlude before we repeat the song, we take our horsies to the lake for a drink & give them a little snack.

Rid-in' in a bug-gy Miss Ma-ry Jane, Miss Ma-ry Jane, Miss Ma-ry Jane. Ri-din' in a bug-gy Miss Ma-ry Jane, you're a

7

Fine

long way from home! Who waits for me? Who waits for me? Who waits for me, my dar-ling, who waits for me?


D.C. al fine

5. The Wild Horseman (Schumann) – An Epic Stick Horse Adventure!

Focus: AABA Form. From *Parachutes, Ribbons and Scarves* by Almeida. Process: Use horsey finger puppets to demo first time. Divide into two groups. Establish a barn on each side of room. One group rides for A, other B. Trade jobs. The last time, all children ride on each A and let horses graze on B.

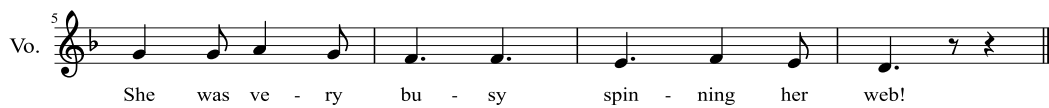
6. Book: The Very Busy Spider (Book by Eric Carle) Melody by Sue Snyder, used with permission. Lesson by Almeida. **(Pair with Lesson #7) Focus: Melody, Steady Beat.** I use spider webs made of tulle pieces, with webs drawn of permanent marker. Divide children into two groups. One group plays Open 5th quarter notes on the Orff instruments, while the other group moves their spiders around the webs to the steady beat of the refrain, ending with three taps in the center. Groups trade jobs and repeat.

Voice



The spi - der did - n't an - swer, the spi - der did - n't an - swer.

Vo. ⁵



She was ve - ry bu - sy spin - ning her web!

7. There's a Spider on the Floor Book/Song by Raffi. Tune "If You're Happy & You Know It." My lyrics & clip art are in the PPT. **Focus: Melody, Phrases, Rhyming Words.** Add 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. Tune is "If You're Happy & Know It."



About the Clinician

Dr. Artie Almeida recently retired after 37 years of teaching in the public schools. She was the music specialist at Bear Lake Elementary school in the Orlando FL area, where she taught 1200 K-5 students. Her dynamic performing groups have performed for NAfME, FMEA, AOSA, Walt Disney World and on the NBC Today Show. Look for *The Bear Lake Sound* in the upcoming music education advocacy documentary "Marching Beyond Halftime."

Artie was chosen as Florida Music Educator of the Year and was also selected as an International Educator 2006 by the Cambridge England Biographical Society. She was a Teacher of the Year at the school level 6 times, Seminole County Teacher of the Year, Runner-Up for Florida Teacher of the Year and was recently chosen as a University of Central Florida Alumni of the Decade. Artie is included in the publications *Who's Who in American Education*, and *Great Minds of the 21st Century*.

Artie served as an adjunct professor of music education at the University of Central Florida for 34 years, the saxophone instructor at Valencia State College, the music and movement instructor at Seminole State College and a saxophone performer and teacher. Additionally, she performs early music on period instruments with the Halifax Consort.