

FROM STORY TO STAGE

Creating A Performance from Children's Literature

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WHERE
SHOULD I
START?



SOME IDEAS

Start at the end

Theme

Choose one song

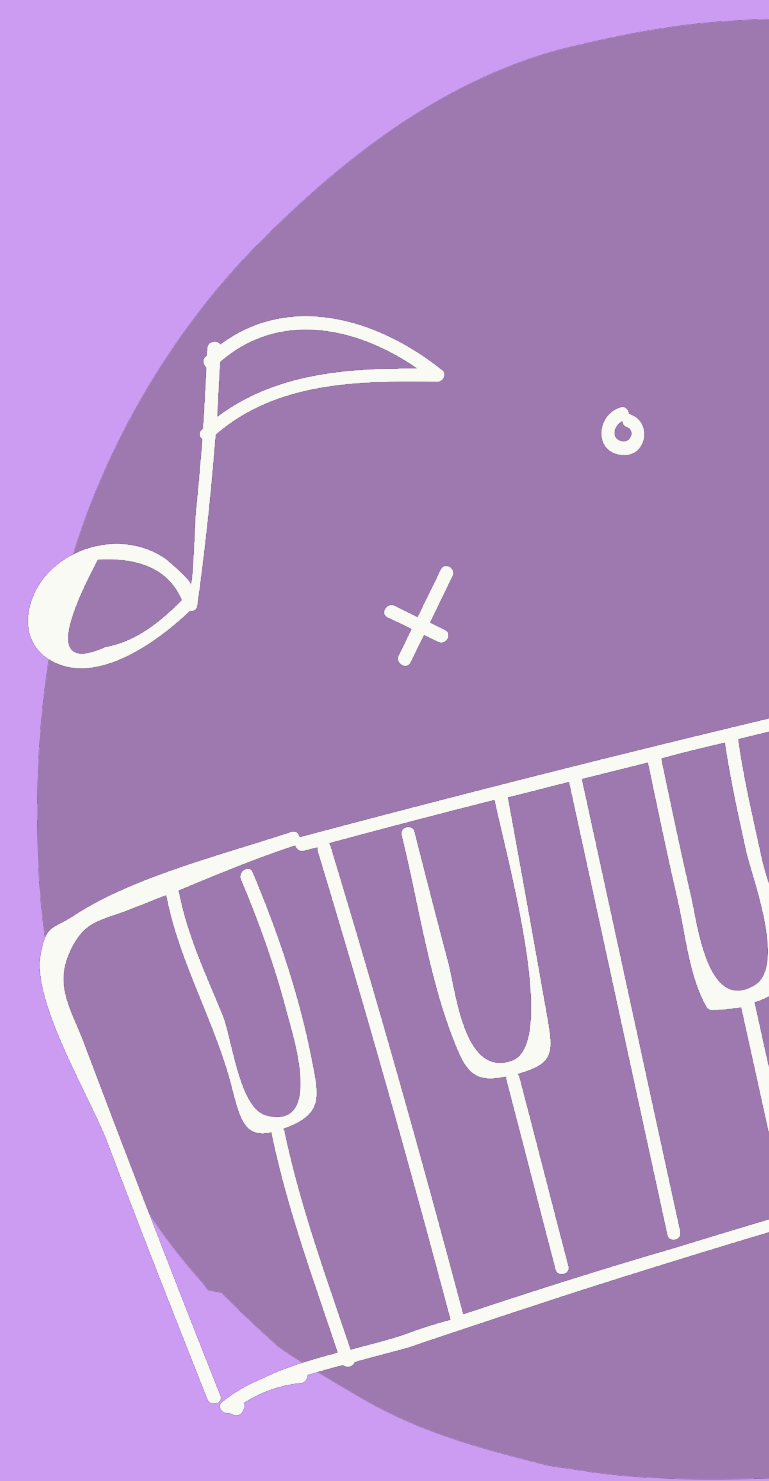
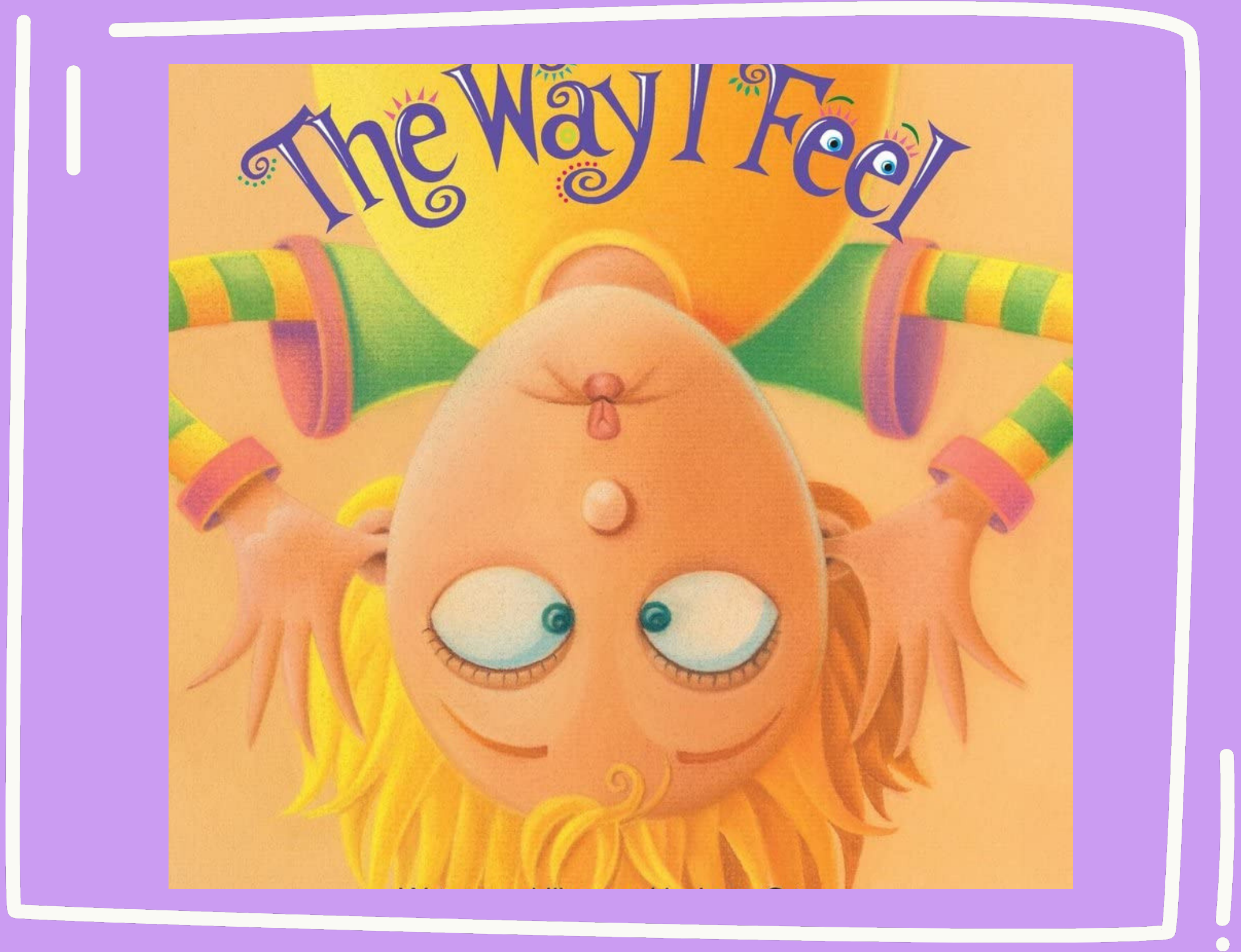


Message

Text of the book

THEME

What's the big idea? If you're doing a winter show, maybe you want it to be about snow. If you're doing a spring show, maybe it's about flowers or nature.



THEME - SEL

AS THE TITLE SUGGESTS, IT IS ABOUT FEELINGS. YOU CAN GO INTO A DISCUSSION ABOUT THE WAY EACH OF THE BIG FEELINGS IN THE BOOK PRESENT THEMSELVES WITH THE STUDENTS. CHOOSE 4-6 OPPOSING EMOTIONS - THE STUDENTS CAN HELP YOU CHOOSE.

FROM THERE YOU HAVE SOME CHOICES...

GENERAL OPTIONS:

Should this mood
be expressed
through
movement?

Should this mood
be expressed
through speech?

Should this mood
be expressed
through singing?

Should this
mood be
expressed via
instruments?

Some Starters:

WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE IS CORRECT FOR YOUR PROGRAM!

- **BREAKING IT INTO THOSE GENERAL OPTIONS HELPS NARROW DOWN THE MASSIVE AMOUNT OF OPTIONS**
- **I LIKE TO HAVE A COUPLE OPTIONS FOR MY STUDENTS TO SEE WHICH ONE STICKS**
- **USE ONLINE / BOOK RESOURCES TO HELP!**

PROCESS

- Introduce students to the different feelings.
- Guide students towards selecting 4-6.
- Have students act out what those feelings would look like in their bodies
- Guide their movement with verbal cues
- Experiment with dynamics and tempo... what's written isn't always right

- Don't be afraid to use content taught in class!
- If you're an AOSA member, the resource library is GREAT

When guiding their answers, be prepared with the other option! The kids might surprise you.

- When you're angry, would you rather play or move?
- When you're stressed, would you rather sing or talk?
- When you're silly, would you rather sing or move?



FEELINGS

HAPPY

ANGRY



STRESSED

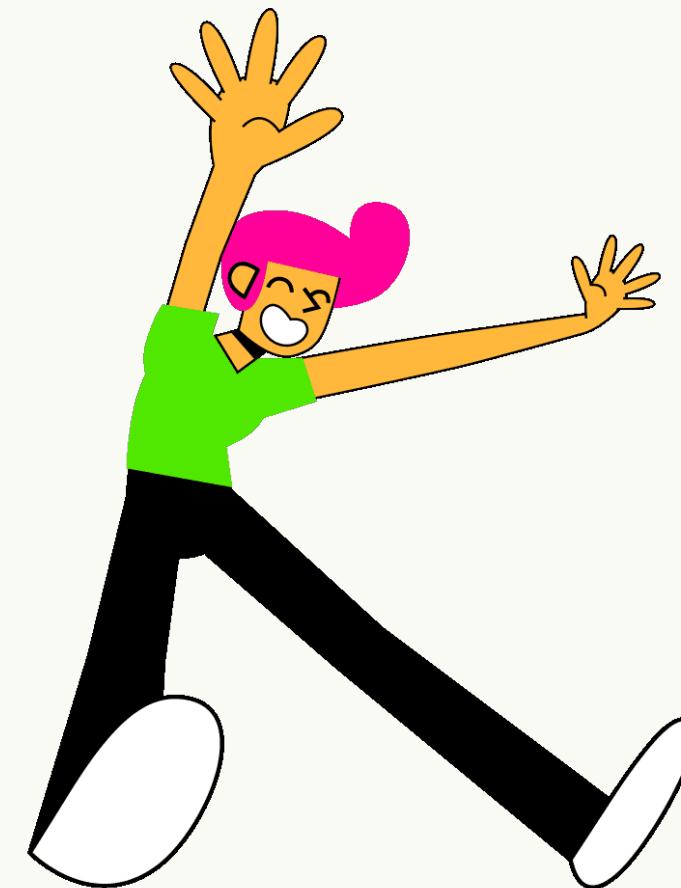
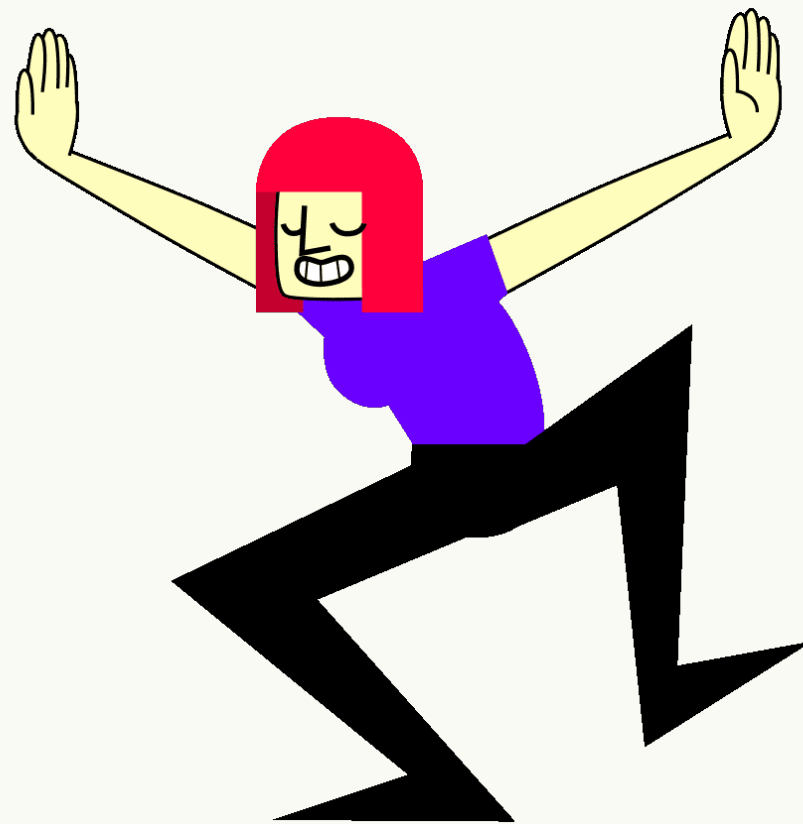
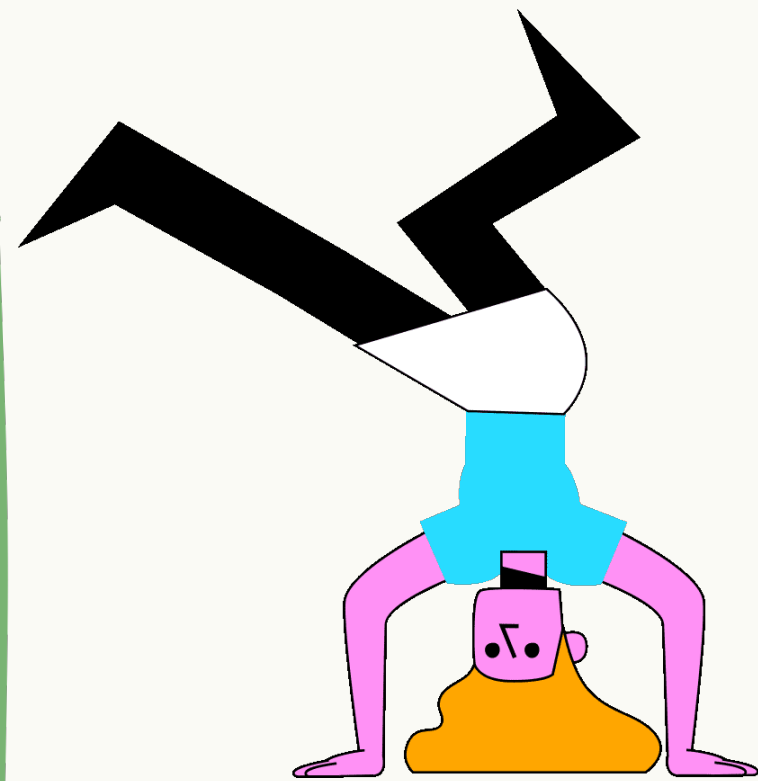
SILLY

SAD

SILLY

IT'S TIME FOR SOME MAD LIBS!

CHOOSE 4-6 NOUNS



MFC Volume 2: Simple Simon
adapted by Debera Thompson

SILLY

**SIMON SAYS TO THE (_NOUN_) GOING TO THE
FAIR**

**SIMON SAYS TO THE (_SAME NOUN_) MATCH
ME IF YOU DARE!**

STRESS

**THINK OF A TIME YOU'VE BEEN VERY
STRESSED OUT.
WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO TO CALM YOURSELF
BACK DOWN?**

FIND A WAY TO SHOW THAT IN YOUR BODY.



MFC Volume 1: pg. 70, #10

adapted by Paul Cribari (permission to share)

STRESS

DEEP..BREATH..

DEEP..BREATH..

GIVE YOURSELF A MINUTE

TAKE THE TIME WITHIN IT;

DON'T..STRESS..

YOU DON'T NEED TO HURRY

THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY

JUST RELAX. RELAX. RELAX. RELAX.

ANGRY

ANGRY! I SHOUT WITH A MIGHTY ROAR!

**WHAT ARE SOME THINGS THAT MAKE YOU
MAD?**



ANGRY

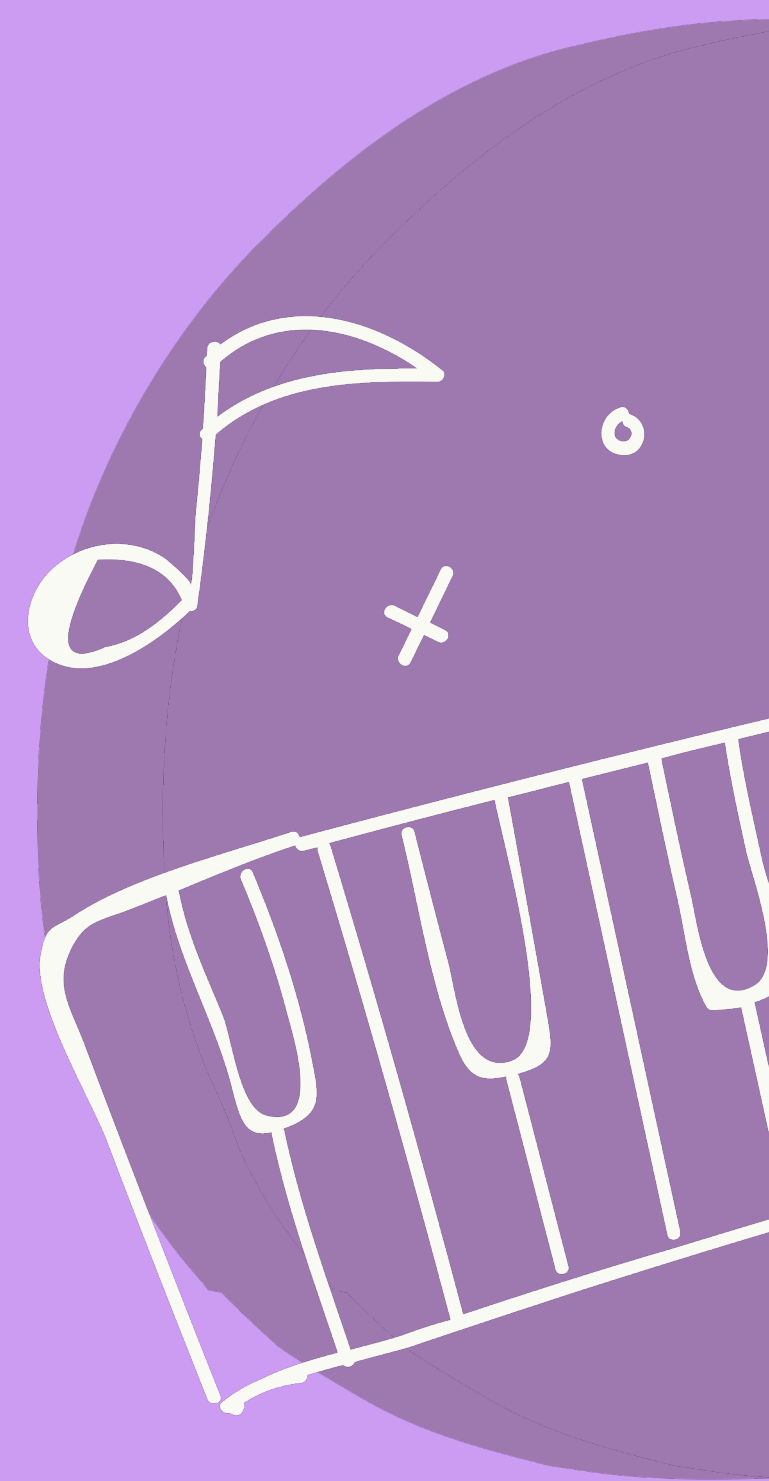
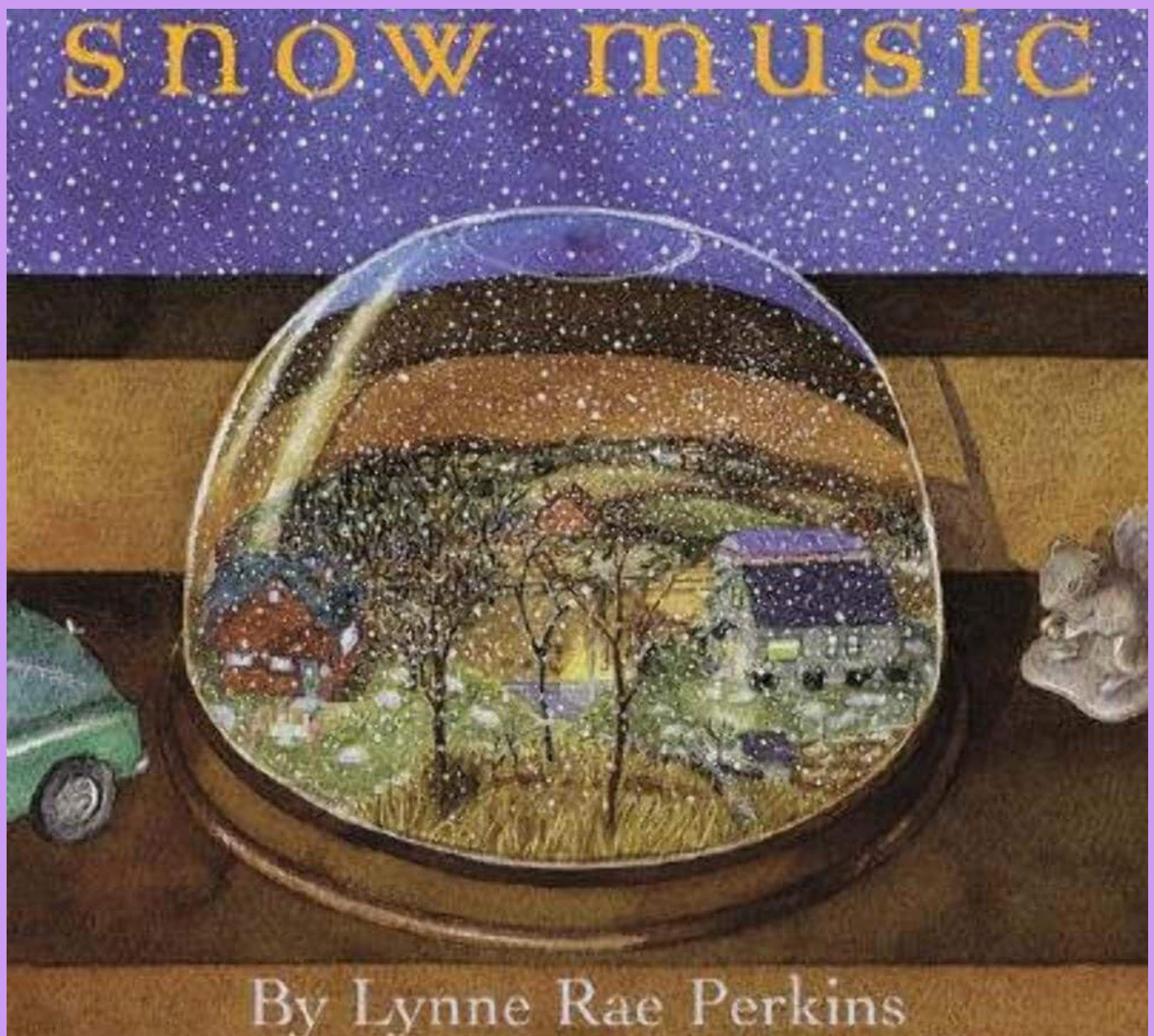
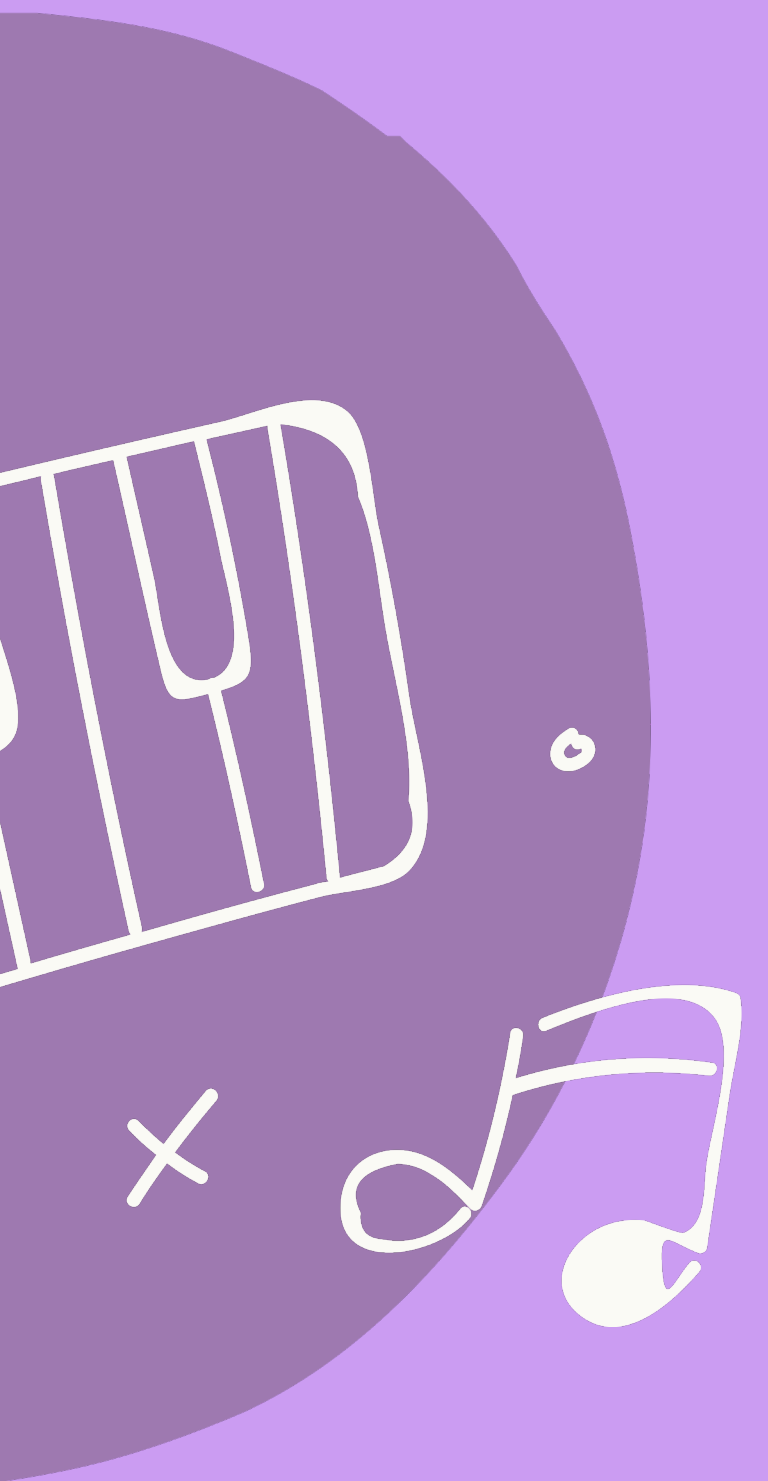
A THING THAT MAKES ME REALLY MAD: ||

A THING THAT MAKES ME REALLY SAD: ||

SITTING, TESTING, WRITING, READING: ||

(REPEAT)

THIS MAKES ME REAL MAD!



Text

- **THIS BOOK LENDS ITSELF SO WELL TO MUSIC! IN THE TEXT THERE ARE CUES FOR SOUNDS AND SONGS**
- **USE THE WORDS FROM THE BOOK TO CREATE A VOCAL OSTINATO**
 - **USE THE "RADIO" SONG AS A PERFORMANCE PIECE!**

IDEAS

Movement

Words

Found Sounds



Pieces from Text

Ostinatos

ANIMAL CANON

- **WHAT IS THE SOUND OF ONE BIRD
HOPPING? HOP, HOP, HOP.. HOP, HOP**
- **DOES THE DEER FEEL THE COLD OF THE
SNOW IN HER HOOFS?**
- **I THINK, I THINK, I THINK I LEFT IT HERE...**

Original Piece
by Debera Thompson

Helpful Resources:

- **AOSA ONLINE LIBRARY**
- **MUSIC FOR CHILDREN VOLUMES**
- **ORFF LEVELS**
- **LYNN KLEINER BOOKS**
- **SANDY & GRETCHEN BOOKS**
- **BETH'S MUSIC NOTES**
- **PD SESSIONS LIKE FMEA**
- **OTHER TEACHERS!**

