

## Maximizing Musicplay with the Happier Music Teacher

Join Beth Duhon, aka the Happier Music Teacher, as she shows you how she maximizes Musicplay in her K-5 Music Classroom. Overwhelmed by all the resources on Musicplay? Beth will show you how she utilizes My Lists, Games, Learning Modules and the student code for her lesson plans, choir rehearsals and even in her learning management system. Plus, she'll share some of her favorite tips and tricks for being a happier music teacher at home and at school.

Welcome and introduction:

Games:

Full class participation ideas not just calling on one student for the answer. Using it as your lesson but they think they are playing the game. Also great informal assessment.

Match the Melody:

- Listen,
- Line or space? Vote with gesture
- Mi/Re/Do, Three in a row, Just like tic tac toe, Talk about Re-Re,
- Drawing with sparkler finger
- Using keyboard vs. voice
- Singing on solfege
- Vote with a 1 or 2

Fast or slow:

- Say the game words in tempo so even the title is a teaching moment
- Student controls the board. Management technique.
- Fast rolling arms or slow rolling arms. Silent voting
- Moving feet to beat or conducting so they can make it visual/kinesthetic

High or low:

- Exaggerate pitches on words high or low
- Voting by putting arms high in the air or low in lap
- If they get confused, ask them if this would be high or low in their voice

Note name games:

- Coconut Chaos, Trivia Wheel, Space Music Adventure (show how to scroll). Take them to each game. Show how game section has game controller. Promethean board or other smart board.
- Use class code on iPad. Put Musicplay on homescreen. Show whole class how to log in as a student and enter the code. Code is posted several places around the room.
- Circulate around room. If you choose to go somewhere besides Musicplay, you are choosing not to use the iPad the rest of the time (week, semester, year, fill in the blank)

- Coconut Chaos makes a very engaging full class game. I have a staff or two with all the letters labeled. Also teaches tempo! One student is the game controller but they can also swap out. The rest of the class calls out the letters. May not need to explicitly teach the note reading part. They'll figure it out. You usually have a few students that carry it and then the rest figure it out.

#### Poison melody:

- Do a song with that pitch set first, like Closet Key for mi re do or Bounce High for sol la mi
- Use an x across the body to show the poison
- Play it up, try to fake them out
- Sign and sing the echo

#### Poison rhythm:

- Do a song with that rhythm set first, like Old Brass Wagon for tika tika
- Explicitly teach what you expect for rhythm reading (look, say, tap)
- Play a round of what's Ms. Duhon doing wrong (not looking, not saying, not tapping)
- Use an x across the body to show the poison, cuts down on calling out during next pattern

#### My Lists:

- Birthday list. Put all birthday options in My Lists to pull up easily. Ask birthday child if they'd like the class to sing to them. Let them scroll through and choose their style. Fort Bend Laura Brown style? Once a month birthdays. Gets list from admin of dates. Birthday kids hit gong to correspond with how many years old. Finish with a game of Cut the Cake.
- Choir list. Easy to share in LMS (Schoology/canvas). Make the student code page into a pdf and put in there. Warm-ups from warm-up section. All Musicplay songs and import your "other stuff" for that concert, semester, competition, etc. Choir is early, y'all! We had a seriously fun end of the year doughnut party and reviewed our songs from this year in My Lists. Easy!
- List for other music teacher/sub. Provided by district so they have access to it. Pull what you would like them to work on for week and put it in their list. Easily import from learning modules for the week and add/delete as needed.
- Our naming convention: Music 1 4<sup>th</sup> grade Week of 4.22-4.29.24. It takes longer but I prefer to pull everything that I might need in that folder in order. Even if you are using the same song material for multiple grades, put it in both grade levels. Need a quick review or have a few extra minutes? Easily pop into another list.
- PLC lists. Second time that day. Not going to do a second class period of direct instruction. So, Music Express videos and PBS VPK virtual field trips on themes like Hawaiian Dance, Flamenco or Music Therapy.
- Sub plans! If they can get in, isn't easy to have them play games the students know or go to the plans you have in there for the week?
- My SLO goal. 5<sup>th</sup> grade tempo terms. Pull all the materials you might use into that folder and OHIO (only handle it once).

- Grade level name plus performance songs. Show how to link outside material. A few weeks you will be living in this folder, right?
- Can “file” into bigger folders. Obviously, I haven’t made friends with this.

Great tools?

Form tool

Rhythm composition

Melody composition

Gamify these and add whole class participation before they do it on their own. They’ll see composition as fun!

Happier Music Teacher: I help music teachers to be happier at home and at school.

Sugar

Sabbath

Solitude

Margin

Musicianship