

Welcome song for 4th/5th grade:

I am always looking for a new welcome song to teach my older students. There are so many wonderful options for k-2, but I have found that there aren't as many available for my older students. This welcome song uses a body percussion pattern found in Rhythmische Übung and my students had a lot of fun learning it. This piece also uses tika-tika in a 6/8 meter. Once students were able to play the melody on xylophones I let them experiment with moving everything up one step and we made it modal. I also added a simple level bordun to this piece.

Text goes with Rhythmische Übung Pg. 16 No. 61

\*\*\* My students wanted to snap on the "right now" instead of clapping

- *Welcome to music class, welcome to music class. It's time to play and sing, time to play and sing, time to play and sing right now!*

On day 2 of this lesson I took the body percussion part and adapted it to be sung and played in a pentatonic melody. Students ended up playing the melody two times. When playing the song for a second time we changed the last two notes to a high C to give it a cadence. While teaching them the xylophone part I made them play all the eighth note C's with their left hand while speaking the text and then we added in the rest of the notes with their right hand. The only part that uses alternating hands is the 16th notes for *time to play and sing*. Notation for this piece can be found on the second page.

**Objective:** Play and sing tika-tika in 6/8 meter.

**Process:**

**Day 1** (10-15 min)

- Introduce text of song through echo.
- Add in body percussion pattern one measure at a time.
- Have students speak the entire text and then do the body percussion with the text.
- Show the notation and text side by side. Have students identify where the tika-tika's are at. Speak the entire poem using rhythmic notation.

## Day 2

- Review text and body percussion from the previous class.
- Have students review all parts using body percussion and then add the melody that goes with the song.
- Get out xylophones and have students play the steady beat on C using their left hand while speaking the poem.
- Once they are able to play the steady beat, add in the tika-tika part while still only playing on the C. At this point remind students to play tika-tika with alternating hands.
- Finally add in the rest of the notes with the right hand. My students were able to do this pretty easily.
- Once all students are able to play the melody you can give them the challenge of moving everything up one step. This is something that you don't have to do, but it was a fun challenge that my students really enjoyed.

# Welcome to Music Class

Rhythmische Übung P.16 No.61

Lux

Melody

Bordun

Melody

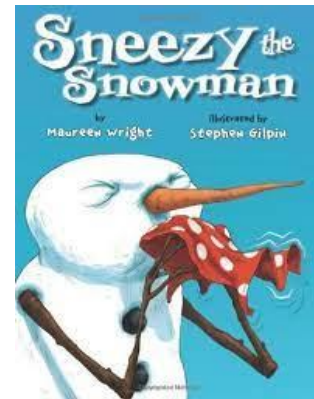
BD

Melody

BD

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November Book Review  
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## **Sneezy the Snowman** **By Maureen Wright**



This book is about a snowman who has caught a cold and he can't seem to warm up. He is surrounded by lots of children who are trying their best to help him feel better, but unfortunately everything they do seems to make him melt and disappear. The text of this story is written with lots of rhyming words and repetitive phrases that work well with younger students. Below I have included one of the sentences that is frequently used during this story that I have made into a melody. The kids give him a scarf, hot chocolate, a campfire and more. All of their ideas cause the snowman to melt and then they have to rebuild him and try something new all over again. As we head into the winter months there are so many things that you can do with this book. I created a simple melody that goes with MFC Vol.1 Pg.91 #1 that I am going to sing to my students every time the snowman melts. I am also in the process of writing a program for this book that I am planning to use with 1st grade.

MFC Vol. 1 Pg. 91 #1

*“What should we do? What should we do? The voice from the puddle said  
“Make me brand new!”*”

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November Helpful Hint

### Using Orff to create your own World Drumming ensembles.

Lately I have been looking for more and more ways to incorporate World Drumming and Orff. My school recently purchased the Purposeful Pathways curriculum by Roger Sams and I have already adapted a few of his pieces to include world drumming instruments as an extension to the lessons that he has come up with. Below is one of the adaptations my students and I created. After learning the original text I had students come up with a list of things that people do when they go to a fair. From there we created simple ostinato patterns that used body percussion. I then selected a few of their ostinato patterns and adapted them to be used with world drumming instruments.

#### Original Text:

Come to the fair! Come to the fair!  
Come to the fair this sunny day, (You'll like it!)  
Come to the fair! Come to the fair!  
Come to the fair and play!

## Come to the fair drum ensemble

Lux

Medium Drum  
Come play Whack - a - mole

Low Drum  
Tas - ty treats!

High Drum  
Fun - nel cakes and hot dogs!

Shekere  
come to the fair

Double Bell  
come en - joy the sun shine!