

Greetings My Friends

Jackie Havranek jfhavranek@mpsomaha.org

Shout out to Kristine Wolfe for writing such amazing words to this catchy little melody from Music for Children!

The image shows a musical score for the song "Greetings My Friends". The score is arranged for Voice, Glock, AX (Acoustic Xylophone), Tubanos (Tubans), and BX (Bells). The music is in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Gree-tingsmyfriends. Gladyou'rehere-to-day. Let's get rea-dyto singandspeakandplay!". The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature of 4/4. The voice part starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The Glock part starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The AX part starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The Tubanos part starts with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. The BX part starts with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. The score is titled "Greetings My Friends" and is attributed to "Words by Kristine Wolfe" and "MFC I, pg. 91 #1 Arr. Jackie Havranek".

Day 1

- Brainstorm different ways that we greet people. EX: high five, hello, yo, peace sign, hug, etc.
- Have students learn song by walking around the room while the teacher sings and being friendly to each other by making eye contact, waving, smiling, etc. After teacher is done singing the song, allow the students to greet each other and when teacher is ready, go back to the song and walking. Do this several times until students have the melody

Day 2

- Have a list of different greetings on the board from different languages. Here is what I used: sorida (Shona), que pasa (Spanish), bonjour (French), guten tag (German), shalom (Hebrew), konichiwa (Japanese), paka (Russian), xin chao (Vietnamese), habari (Swahili), namaskaram (malayalam), vanakkam (Tamil), marhaban (Arabic)
- Go through greetings and discuss what languages they are from and where they are spoken around the world. Be sure students are pronouncing them correctly! There are some great videos on youtube that teach you how to say them correctly. Bonus points if you seek out languages that are native to your students' families! My EL students were thrilled to hear words that they recognized!
- In small groups, partners, or by themselves, have students create a word chain with four of the greetings and have them practice saying them together. With extra time, add body percussion

Day 3

- Transfer greeting word chains to drums
- Perform in a rondo using the song as an A section

Extension Ideas:

- Learn instrument ensemble parts
- Add movement to go with greetings
- Transfer word chains to barred instruments for improvisation