

Let Us Go Walking Together

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Target Area: Upper Grades and/or Choir

Lesson Focus: Part Singing, Solfege, Shape of Melodic Line

I usually teach this song over the course of a few lessons at the beginning of the year with my 5th or 6th graders as a welcome back/camaraderie song! Once learned, I like to use it as a warm-up or closing song for a few weeks. There are many ways to go about teaching this particular two-part song and you could certainly choose to focus on any of the above listed concepts more or less than listed in the process below.

Process:

Getting students moving

- Students in scatter formation throughout space
- Teacher plays bottom line on piano with steady beat in LH while students move throughout space and “find the beat in their feet” (dotted half note pulse)
- Repeat many times until all students have found the pulse in their body
- Encourage students to make eye contact with others as they pass one another around the room

Learning “bass line”-Two ways to go about achieving same outcome

SOLFEGE

- Echo teach bottom line using solfege
- Can add hand signs or body signs
- They have heard this played on the piano many times now, so they should pick it up quickly
- Add words when you deem appropriate

SHAPE OF LINE

- Show visual (below)
- Teacher add singing while students are still moving
- Have students stop in space and view visual on board
- Discuss “shape” of the melody
- Echo teach words if students haven’t already joined you in singing melody

Probably where I would stop on day one

Add descant

- Students sing bass line while moving throughout space (take time to review if new class period)
- Teacher sing descant while students are singing “bass line”
- Discussion of two part singing if it is new to the students. Discuss difference between canon and two completely different parts
- Teach descant by rote (I usually do not use solfege for this part)
- Once students are comfortable with the new melody, you can slowly add the bass line. I like to add a few students at a time back to the other part as it weans the class into an even split

Extension

Add movement for each part. Could be scatter still, or challenge students to come up with more structured formations that fit the melodic lines.

A song with descant

Let Us Go Walking Together

Let us go walk-ing to - geth-er; let us go walk-ing to - geth-er; o'er

Walk - ing, walk - ing; let us walk to - geth-er.

fields and moun - tains, through woods and vales; let us go walk-ing to - geth-er.

Walk - ing; walk - ing; let us go walk-ing to - geth-er.

Walk- get- her

Walk- walk

ing ing Let us to-

Walk- get- her

ing ing to-

ing Let us go walk-