

Outlines: The First 4 Levels of Training

BEGINNER COURSE

1. Vocal Training

- a. Warming up the voice
- b. Basic warm ups with hand levels
- c. Beginning Solfege
- d. Supportive Breathing
- e. Ear Training

2. Songleading

- a. Body rhythms
- b. Counting in a Song
- c. Singing together
- d. Rests
- e. Ending together
- f. Call and Response Song Instruction
- g. Hand Language for Leadership
- h. Simple parts and rounds

3. Guitar

- a. Playing in Open G
- b. Strumming the steady beat, divided beat, and unevenly divided beat
- c. Strumming in 4/4 and 3/4
- d. Strumming down on strong and weak beats to create rhythms
- e. Strumming Down and Up in combinations
- f. Playing 1 finger chords for C and D (I, IV, V)
- g. Drumming with the guitar/sound effects
- h. Tempo
- i. Volume
- j. Beginning tuning by ear and with a tuner
- k. Using the capo to change keys
- l. Fancy endings with guitar!

4. Songwriting

- a. Facilitating student songwriting in a large group
- b. Facilitating student songwriting in pairs- 1 stanza only
- c. Add-on lyrics
- a. Piggyback lyric writing to folk melodies
- b. Writing on topic
- c. Writing in grade level groups
- d. Writing for Language Acquisition and Fluency

BEGINNER PLUS COURSE

2. Vocal Training

- a. Warm up games with hand levels
- b. Supportive Breathing
- c. Ear Training
- d. Beginning Solfege
- e. Vocal range
- f. Keying songs to fit voices
- g. Holding your own part while someone sings a different part (rounds)

3. Songleading

- a. Counting in a Song
- b. Developing an ending
- c. Singing in 2 and 3 parts
- d. Singing dynamically
- e. Call and Response Song Instruction cont.
- f. Hand Language for Leadership
- g. Duo and solo parts
- h. Cueing singers
- i. Preparing for a performance (relaxation, breathing, visualization)
- j. Counting in a Round

4. Guitar

- a. Playing in Open G
- b. Strumming the steady beat, divided beat, and unevenly divided beat
- c. Strumming in 4/4 and 3/4
- e. Strumming down on strong and weak beats to create rhythms
- d. Strumming Down and Up in combinations
- e. Calypso, country and reggae rhythms
- f. Playing 1, 2 and 3 finger chords for C, D, Em and G7 (I, IV, V)
- g. The Blues
- h. Arranging songs for message using guitar dynamics
- i. Tuning by ear and with a tuner

5. Songwriting

- a. Facilitating collaborative student songwriting in small groups-verses
- a. The critique; positive feedback and praise
- b. Writing rhyming and non-rhyming lyrics
- c. Piggyback lyric writing to rock and pop melodies
- d. Writing by subject area
- e. Writing for a specific lesson
- f. Writing for memorization
- g. Writing for deeper understanding and connection to content

STRUMMER 1 COURSE

1. Vocal Training

- b. warm ups, all kinds, teachers lead them
- c. Supportive Breathing- reserving power
- d. Singing parts
- e. Singing 3 part harmony
- f. Arranging vocal parts

2. Songleading

- a. Teachers lead songs each week
- b. Practicing giving verbal instructions for singing- practice teaching the group
- c. Cueing singers for parts and harmonies

3. Guitar

- a. Standard Tuning
- b. Strumming the steady beat, divided beat, and unevenly divided beat
- c. Strumming and Pluck Strumming in 2/4, 4/4 and 3/4
- d. Beginning fingerpicking
- e. Rock, Calypso, country, Bluegrass, and reggae rhythms
- f. Playing Am7, E7, D7, C, Am, E, "little G"
- g. The Blues
- h. Storytelling with the guitar- soundtracks
- i. Running a Guitar Station in the classroom

4. Songwriting

- a. Facilitating independent student songwriting
- b. The critique; positive feedback and praise
- c. Writing songs, concept first (tender topics)
- d. Writing songs, lyrics first (from a poem)
- e. Writing songs, chord chart first (math)
- f. Writing a bridge (employing that minor chord!)

STRUMMER 2 COURSE

1. Vocal Training

- a. warm ups, all kinds, teachers lead them
- b. Singing embellishments- triplets and Blues scale
- c. Singing parts
- d. Singing 3 part harmony
- e. Breathing placement

2. Songleading

- a. Teachers lead songs each week
- b. Practicing giving verbal instructions for singing- practice teaching the group
- c. Cueing singers for parts and harmonies

3. Guitar

- a. Standard Tuning
- b. C major scale- 1 octave
- c. Strumming the steady beat, divided beat, and unevenly divided beat
- d. Strumming and Pluck Strumming in 2/4, 4/4 and 3/4
- e. More fingerpicking, picking in 6/8
- f. Rock, Calypso, country, Bluegrass, and reggae rhythms
- g. Practicing Am7, E7, D7, C, Am, E, "little G"
- h. Playing B7, D, A7, "big G", Fmaj7
- i. Muting strings
- j. Running a Guitar Station in the classroom

4. Songwriting

- a. Facilitating independent student songwriting
- b. The critique; giving and handling constructive criticism
- c. Writing songs for stories and plays
- d. Writing a school song or thematic anthem
- e. Recording in the classroom
- f. Making an original CD