

Informances for Advocacy

Natasha Thurmon, Boldt Elementary, NISD, San Antonio, TX

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Natasha.thurmon@gmail.com

Informances are a great way to invite your students' parents into the classroom and pull back the curtain to reveal the thoughtful process behind what and how we teach their children.

What is an "Informance," and how do I do it?!

- Who?
 - I have informances for Kinder-2nd, but you can do whatever you think is most appropriate for your school community.
- What?
 - Think of it as "Take-Your-Parents-to-Music-Class-Day," instead of a performance.
- Why?
 - Kids love having their parents visit, and vice versa.
 - Admin can easily approve, with minimal to no schedule changes.
 - Builds community.
 - Advocate for your classroom directly to parents.
- How?
 - Consider having it during your regular music class time and date. One per a class in a grade level!
 - Clear your dates and times with administration.
 - Choose where to hold your informances (Music room, stage, cafeteria...)
 - Create an invitation, and send it home a few weeks in advance.
 - Send a reminder note one week out.
 - Take one to two lessons (depending on your chosen activities) to prepare your students.
- What Do We Do?
 - Choose activities that can easily involve parents
 - Have a wide variety of activities to showcase all you and your students do.
 - Have variety: Literacy, group work, movement, instruments...

I See Someone

The musical notation for 'I See Someone' is written on a single staff in 2/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: 'I see some-one he's sit-ting ve-ry nice-ly, he's sit-ting ve-ry qui-et-ly, he's wear-ing'. The second line of music starts with a measure rest, followed by the lyrics: '(insert description of clothing here) and he's sitt-ting ve-ry qui-et-ly.' The number '5' is written above the first measure of the second line.

I see some-one he's sit-ting ve-ry nice-ly, he's sit-ting ve-ry qui-et-ly, he's wear-ing

5
(insert description of clothing here) and he's sitt-ting ve-ry qui-et-ly.

- Things to highlight:
 - Help students to focus at the beginning of a lesson
 - Progression of the activity from year to year

Keep the Beat

- S keep a steady beat with T to prerecorded music; S take over and choose where to keep the beat.
- Things to highlight:
 - Progression of the activity from Kinder to 1st Grade
 - Correlations between steady beat and literacy
 - Implications for musicianship in older grade levels

Ping Pong Pig

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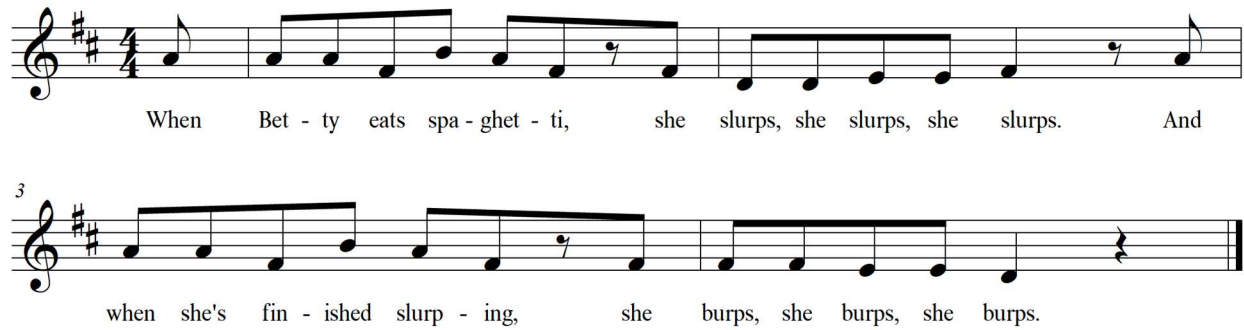
The musical notation for 'Ping Pong Pig' is written on a single staff in 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: 'Ping Pong Pig, he wants to fly high. Ping Pong Pig flies high in the sky.' The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#).

Ping Pong Pig, he wants to fly high. Ping Pong Pig flies high in the sky.

- T introduces S to Pig, explore high and low vocal sounds as pig flies through the air.
- S learn song by rote.
- T reads story to S, inserting song between pages.
- Add four voices friends.
- Things to highlight:
 - Understanding and properly using the four voice types.
 - Literacy tie-in
 - Social story

Betty Spaghetti

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- T tells story of Betty, a girl with poor table manners.
- S learn song by rote
- Whole Group: Create 8-beat rhythm pattern
- Small Group: Mimic activity, add UPP
- Form: Rondo or “Book Ends”
- Things to highlight:
 - Half note- new rhythm
 - Students are COMPOSING music
 - SO MANY objectives in one activity

Resources

Foster, John L. *A Very First Poetry Book*. Oxford, 1984.

Church, Caroline. *Ping Pong Pig*. Holiday House, 2008.

Vampire Weekend. “White Sky.” *Contra*, XL Recordings, 2010.