

Informances for Advocacy

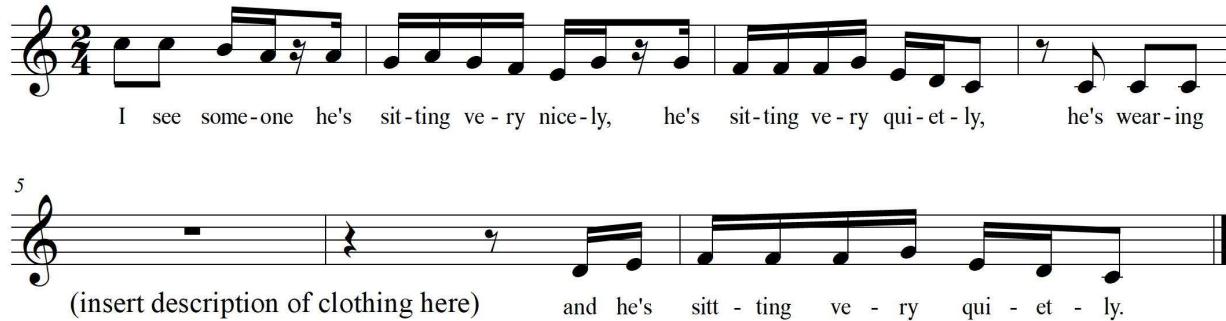
Natasha Thurmon, Boldt Elementary, NISD, San Antonio, TX
CASMEC, Sacramento, CA, January 2026
Natasha.thurmon@gmail.com

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



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

- Things to highlight:

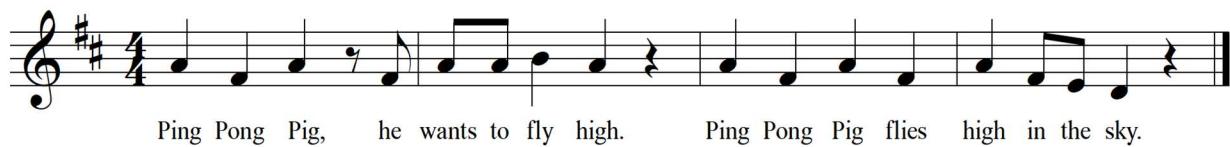
- Help students to focus at the beginning of a lesson
- Progression of the activity from year to year

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

Thurmon

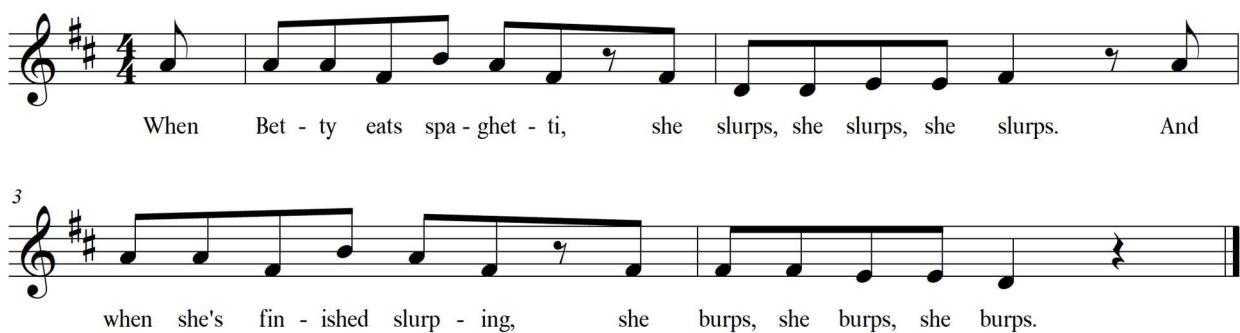


Ping Pong Pig, he wants to fly high. Ping Pong Pig flies high in the sky.

- 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

Thurmon



When Bet - ty eats spa - ghet - ti, she slurps, she slurps, she slurps. And

when she's fin - ished slurp - ing, she burps, she burps, she burps.

- 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.