

On With the Show!

Ideas for Assemblies, Concerts and Special Days

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- ★ Lots of performance options - Seasonal, Sing, Play, Move, Literacy, Listening
- ★ What Children Learn from Performing poster!
- ★ Concert Planning Unit -
 - **Guiding questions:**
 - **What can I do?**
 - **What are the community expectations?**
 - **What is the goal/theme?**
 - **What help is available?**
 - Keep it simple - value of performance opportunity versus brilliant performances
 - **Expect the unexpected!** Concert Etiquette Rap

- ★ **Where to begin: Units - Programs and Musicals**
 - Many options for teaching and presentation
 - I find the “Lyrics” projectable videos and slides super helpful

- ★ **Christmas - look for resources in:**
 - Advent unit - sacred
 - Christmas Line Dances
 - Christmas Sacred unit
 - Christmas Santa unit
 - Christmas Secular unit
 - Nutcracker
 - Programs and Musicals
- ★ **Christmas - younger grades - Christmas Cookies!**
 - Gnome for the Holidays
- ★ **Nutcracker - use to showcase instruments and props with play-alongs**
 - Finish with Artie Almeida’s “The Platecracker”

- ★ Check out John Jacobson musicals - Starbucks! Is a favourite
 - Holly Jolly Jalopy
 - Dashing Through the Show
- ★ **Denise Gagne classics** - “Survival Santa”; “Slapshot Santa”; “The Best Christmas Gift”
- ★ Sacred- Advent Unit
 - Christmas Sacred unit has traditional carols and playalongs
 - “It’s a Boy!” - John Jacobson musical
- ★ **St. Patrick's Day unit**
 - **Connaughtman's Rambles rhythm play along or body percussion**
 - **Leprechaun improvisation** - bring it to life with simple props
- ★ **Friendship/ Pink Shirt**
 - **A Place in the Choir unit**
 - **Songs for a Brighter World unit**
 - “Friends Forever” song
- ★ **Easter** - bunny-themed stories and programs
 - Bunnies! Musical - soooooo cute!!
 - Stories - Old Mister Rabbit, Little Rabbit Foo Foo
- ★ **Spring Stories:**
 - Rain, Rain
 - Plant a Rainbow
 - Create your own Rain Storm story with instrument sound effects!
- ★ **Mother’s Day** - Gitsigakomim - Blackfoot song and stick passing
 - That’s My Mom
 - Mom, You’re the Best
- ★ **Spring (or anytime) musicals**
 - **Bingo** - Jacobson - NEW!!
 - **Best Pet Show Ever** - K-3 musical - Gagne
 - **Meow! - The Most Excellent Tale of Rover and Mewliet** - Jacobson
 - **Eureka!** - older students - about inventions
 - **Kick It!** - soccer sportsmanship and teamwork
 - **Big Dreams** - musical revue - could make a good farewell

program

- Just Sing
- Razza- majazz
- High Seas

★ **June/ Graduation/ Farewell/ Thank You**

- **Thank You, Teacher**
- **We Will, We Will Miss You** - my adaptation of “We Will Rock You”
- We Did It
- Let Your Light Shine (add lights - of course !!)
- **Volunteers - Our Hats Off to You**
- Campfire unit

★ **Fall/ Harvest/ Thanksgiving**

- **Los Machetes folk dance**
- **Autumn, Vivaldi** - great dramatization by Denise
- **Falling Leaves - Grade 2**
- **Turkey Tango**

★ **Hallowe'en**

- **Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything - literacy**
 - Hang articles of clothing on a hockey drying rack
- **Monster Mash Cup Game**
- **Ukuleles/ Recorders/ Boomwhackers - Old Woman all Skin and Bones; Ghost of Tom**

★ **November 11 Unit - Songs of Peace; Unity songs**

- **Just One Candle - song; instrument play-along; ASL**
- **NEW !! "Thank You" song**
- **“Last Post” and “Reveille” recordings available**
- **Sample Scripts for assemblies**
- **Sing for Peace (easy choir song); also in French**
- **Shine a Light for Peace**
- **In Flanders' Fields** - black light performance - email me for specifics!

★ **Literacy connections**

- Storybook Lessons in MusicPlay pdf
- Mortimer - rhythm instruments/drums, Orff/boomwhackers
- Kindergarten Spring Literacy unit
- Alphabet Action songs
- Old Mister Rabbit
- Chicken Little
- Little Rabbit Foo Foo

★ **Anytime ideas**

- **Cookies - the Musical**
- **Bucket Drumming and other instruments**
- **Folk dances - La Raspa, Seven Jumps, Los Machetes**
- **Basketball Performance Ideas unit**
- **Kickball Performance Ideas unit**
- **Listening activities using plates, scarves, finger lights, and more! Carnival of the Animals - Listening With Props and Movement unit**

★ **When the performance is over:**

- Take 5 minutes to note things that you will keep and change
- Student assessment
 - Use a rehearsal to assess effort and performance - I like to take a video
 - Student self-assessments
 - Evaluate a Performance worksheet - upper elementary
 - Concert Performance assessment - Grade 3 and up
 - Concert Self-Evaluation worksheet - lower grades
 - Concert Star and Wish - Holoboff

★ **Helpful tips!**

- Create a generic theme to tie together individual selections, eg) Christmas is Fun (jokes); Merry Rockin' Christmas
- Mark out the stage dimensions with tape on the floor in the music room. You can practice what it will look like and where everyone will stand (and take photos so you will remember) even before you get to the venue.
- Teach your class/choir a "peace" or "unity" song for November 11, then use that song again at Christmas

- John Jacobson musicals - use his choreography as a guideline - may want to cut it WAY back!
 - From John Jacobson: For a program with dialogue - project the dialogue on a wall or screen behind the performers. The audience will still know what is being said, even if the speaker makes a mistake, doesn't speak clearly, etc.
 - Use YouTube for instrument and choreography inspiration
- ★ Check out Music K-8 Magazine - nice arrangements for choir plus some very fun musicals, like "The Elves Impersonator"
- ★ Check out Musicplay Teachers and lots of other music teachers on social media sites. Amazing sharing happens in those spaces !!
- Some of my favourites to follow are: Mollie Teaches Music, Kristin Lukow, Aimee Pfitzner, Mrs. King's Music Corner
 - YouTube check out: Brian Gossard, Mr. DelGaudio

Concert Planning Guide:

Before Concert:

Task:	Who:	When to be completed:
Concert Expectation Meeting		
Book Concert Dates		
Book Venue		
Select Music		
Order Music		
Communicate Concert Dates		
Stage Rental		
Chair Rental		
Sound Equipment Rental		
Costume Planning		
Prop Planning		
Backdrop Planning		
Measure Stage		
Check Fire Code		
Venue Set-up Email		
Communicate Gym Closures		
Book Accompanist		
Instruments Needed		

Concert Planning Guide:

During Concert Preparation:

Task:	Who:	When to be completed:
Prepare Choreography		
Film Practice Videos		
Auditions		
Script Re-writes		
Costume Preparations		
Prop Organization		
Ticket Communication		
Concert Week Schedule		
Costume Communication		
Assign Parts		
Print Scripts		
Tape Stage/Assign Blocking		
Assign Props		
Microphone Practice		
Transitions		
Prepare Paper Program		

Concert Planning Guide:

Before Concert Week:

Task:	Who:	When to be completed:
Stage Set-Up		
Sound System Set-Up		
Lights Set-Up		
Chairs Set-Up		
Instrument Set-Up		
Tape Cords/Hazards		
Emergency Supplies		
Props Set-Up		
Background Set-up		
Schedule Communication		
Print Programs		

Concert Planning Guide:

During/After Concert:

Task:	Who:	When to be completed:
Sound		
Lights		
Runners		
Props		
Transitions		
Supervision		
Video		
Ticket Takers/Reservations		
Programs (Hand-out)		
Clean-Up		
Post Online		

WHAT CHILDREN LEARN FROM PERFORMING

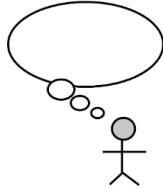
cooperation **POISE** **bravery** **RESponsIBILITY** self-respect
MUSICALITY **SELF WORTH** following a conductor
EXPRESSION **listening** **memorization** **FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS** **discipline**
teamwork **music skills** *stage presence*
musical styles/genres **stress management**
companionship **ACCOUNTABILITY**
WHAT CHILDREN LEARN FROM PERFORMING
practice makes you prepared **beat** **leadership** **building community**
grace **concert etiquette** **delayed gratification** **attention to detail**
commitment **public speaking** **posture** **confidence**
artistry **joy of accomplishment** **perseverance**
resilience **self control** **PRIDE** **SHARING GIFTS OF JOY**
HAND-EYE COORDINATION

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Christmas Concert Reflection Name _____



One thing that I liked in the Christmas Concert was:



One thing that I wish about the Christmas Concert is:

Concert Performance Assessment

Name: _____

Class: _____

	always	usually	sometimes	not at all
SINGING:				
I sang with my best singing voice				
I watched for cut-offs				
I used good diction				
I shaped my vowels correctly				
I knew all the words to the songs				
I used good posture when singing				
MOVEMENT:				
I did the actions correctly				
STAGE PRESENCE:				
I watched the conductor				
I used my eyes and face to express the meaning of the song				
I remembered not to talk when on stage				
AUDIENCE BEHAVIOR:				
When watching other performers I was a good listener				

Name: _____ Class: _____

CONCERT SELF-EVALUATION

I sang with my BEST singing voice.

NEVER

SOME of
the time.

MOST of
the time.

ALWAYS

I remember all (or most) of the words.

NEVER

SOME of
the time.

MOST of
the time.

ALWAYS

I used my eyes and face to express the words of the song.

NEVER

SOME of
the time.

MOST of
the time.

ALWAYS

I used good posture while singing.

NEVER

SOME of
the time.

MOST of
the time.

ALWAYS

My eyes were focused on the conductor.

NEVER

SOME of
the time.

MOST of
the time.

ALWAYS

Falling Leaves - a versatile song

Gently D m Denise Gagné
Leaves are fall - ing down, All a - round the town.
A7 D m 3rd time fine
Whirl - ing, whirl - ing, in the wind the leaves are fall - ing down.
Improvise movement D.C. al Coda

“We Will Miss You” - teacher retirement

(to the tune of “We Will Rock You”)

**We will, we will miss you!
We will, we will miss you!**

**We hear that you are retiring
That you’re gonna be on forever vacay!
We hear that you are retiring
Every day will be a holiday.**

**We can’t believe that you’re going to go
And so we want you to know
We’ll miss your face around this place
You could never be replaced.**

**We will, we will miss you!
We will, we will miss you!**

**You taught us how to write and read
And gave us everything to succeed.
For you it’s gonna be so cool
You get to say goodbye to school.**

**We can’t believe that you’re going to go
And so we want you to know
We’ll miss your face around this place
You could never be replaced.**

**We will, we will miss you!
We will, we will miss you! MISS YOU !!
(insert name here) - YOU ROCK !!!**

