



BBC Champions Music workshop

Aaron Copland

1900-1990

Hoedown from Rodeo (1942)

Aims:

- Introduce the melodic material Copland used to compose the piece
- Use pulse as a key element of the workshop
- Use phrases to learn the melodies of the piece
- Explore some of the rhythmic content of the piece through the medium of body percussion
- Layer melodic content and rhythmic content to produce a piece
- Share a new short piece composed collaboratively based on key concepts of the composition

Structure

1. Warm up – pulse related game
2. Listen to the piece (twice)
3. Activities related to the piece
4. Sharing

Listening Questions:

1. How do you feel when you listen to this piece?
2. Where in the world might you hear music like this?
3. What place do you think you might be in when you hear this music?

Encourage movement: note how children move to the piece –and sharing of moves.

Activities:

1. Warm up - Hoedown – Yeehaa, passes it on in the direction it is already going | Haybarn, skips a person, hands above the head in roof position | Hoedown, blocks and sends it back the other way (fist downwards motion, opposite arm to the direction of travel).

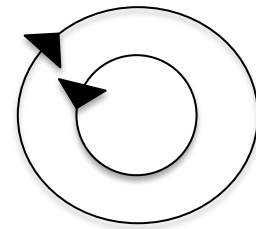
2. Warm up – Two circles:

Pulse, in a circle walking together in time, clapping on beat, walking round in

opposite direction, counting in 2/4 not 4/4.

Stage 2 – resting for set amount of bars, feeling pulse together, ask pupils to count in in 2/4

3. Off and on the beat - 2 groups walking in opposite directions, one group on the beat the other off the beat, then stop for 4bars before switching rhythm and direction.



4. Offbeat semiquavers - As above but clapping twice off the beat instead of once.



Working in pairs outside circle facing inside | Inside circle facing outside. – Include 4 bars of 2/4 rest. On 4th bar of rest all move to your right. Continue with the rhythm with new partners.

5. Hoedown- vocal warm up – sing D Major scale, 1, 121, 12321 etc...

(Piano accompaniment)

Question and answer – melodic phrases based on D major scale first five notes – using numbers and /or sol fah. Created in pairs | shared with the rest of the group | whole group sings each phrase back.

Create your melody with this rhythm:



Extension activity – use all 8 notes of D Major scale and use note names.

Have a Hoedown with all the material you have created! Rhythmic and Melodic!

For more information about Birmingham Conservatoire Learning and Participation Activities please contact

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