

PizzIMMERSION

Professional Learning Activities

Mini lesson plan

Title

Frere Jacques/Brother John

Materials

A4 piece of paper per person for brainstorming
Optional – Sheet music of original song if teacher reads music

Year level suggested

Years 3-6

Useful for

Individual/group expression through song writing
Knowledge of musical structure
Melodic understanding

Learning intention

To create a class/school song by taking a pre-existing folksong and altering the melodic/rhythmic elements to fit new lyrics that represent the group's identity and/or values

Steps**COMPOSITION:**

1. Teach the group the selected original song. If unfamiliar, teach in small sections with lots of repetition. For non-music readers, printed music is useful as a visual cue to follow the shape of the music.
2. Once the song is known, ask the group/sub-groups to brainstorm a suitable two-part introductory phrase to the song eg: "When we start our day each morning, we kiss our mum good-bye" approx. 5-6 words for each 'part that represents whom/what the song is about (Who are we, what's our school/grade? Start of the day thoughts about school, what are we looking forward to today? Friends? Setting? 'Walking past the wattle tree', something unique to the setting of the school. Waking up, what are our first thoughts about the day at school?
3. Students then brainstorm as many short phrases (max 5-8 words per phrase) as possible, expanding on the opening phrase around the group's identity, values, beliefs, friendship, inclusivity etc for about 5 minutes (Some relaxing music can be played while participants are brainstorming parts 2 + 3)
4. Collect the pieces of paper from the group, and choose the introductory phrase that you or the group nominates; circle the best phrases for the song and together decide on the order. (Numbering can help create a sense of structure within the song)
5. Apply the new lyrics to the original song demonstrated at the beginning, keeping the melody of the original, but altering the rhythmic structure to fit the new lyrics
The song length may be altered to allow for more lyrics if desired

Frere Jacques/Brother John - English Translation

Are you sleep - ing? Are you sleep - ing? Bro - ther John, Bro - ther John?

5

Morn - ing bells are ring - ing Morn - ing bells are ring - ing Ding, Ding, Dong Ding, Ding, Dong

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Composed by Daniel Smith

Frere Jacques - Example of Altered version for school song

4
When we wake up in the morn-ing we get dressed for school, we

7
kiss our mum good-bye and we bolt, through the door Oh I'm so ex - cit - ted, what

10
will we learn to- day? Will we learn a-bout the Az - Tecs or learn a-bout the Brain? Be-cause

12
here at (InsertSchoolGroup Name) there is oh so much to learn with

all of my friends the jour-ney ne-ver ends!

Optional ADVANCED COMPOSITION

Alter the melody of the song – inverted see example below.

ORIGINAL MELODY

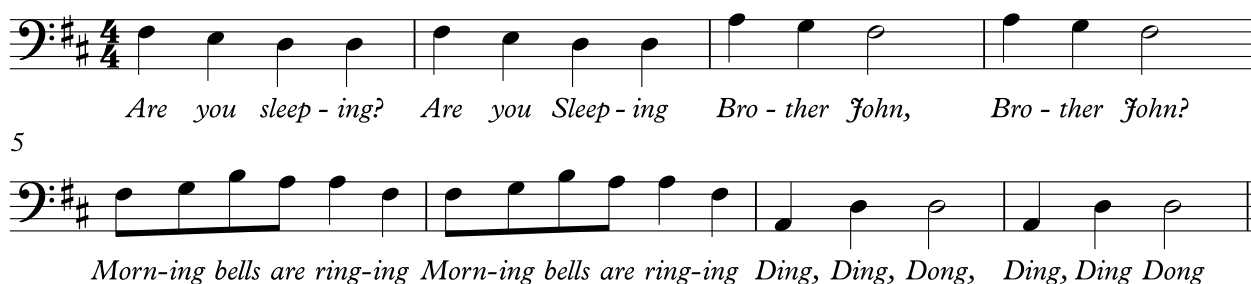
ALTERED MELODY - The same notes, but starting from the highest pitch of Frere Jacques

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Frere Jacques/Brother John - Altered Melody



Are you sleep - ing? Are you Sleep - ing Bro - ther John, Bro - ther John?

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Morn - ing bells are ring - ing Morn - ing bells are ring - ing Ding, Ding, Dong, Ding, Ding Dong

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A Completely New Composition Inspired by Frere Jacques/Brother John



When we wake up in the morn - ing we get dressed for school, we

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kiss our mum good - bye and we bolt, through the door Oh I'm so ex - cit - ted, what

7

will we learn to - day? Will we learn a - bout the Az - Tecs or learn a - bout the Brain? Be - cause

10

here at (Insert School Group Name) there is oh so much to learn with

12

all of my friends the jour - ney ne - ver ends!

Curriculum links

Music

- Explore and Express Ideas
- Music Practices
- Present and Perform

Capabilities

- Personal and Social
 - Social Awareness and Management, Collaboration

Need support?

Email PizzASSIST, education@mso.com.au
and quote PizzASSIST in the subject line