



CLASS ACTIVITY: JINGLE BELL DUETS

OVERVIEW

In this activity, students will create their own jingle bell instruments, and then work in pairs to explore the roles of melody and accompaniment using "Jingle Bells."

MATERIALS: Pipe cleaners, craft sticks, jingle bells

JINGLE BELL STICKS INSTRUCTIONS

Thread a jingle bell onto the pipe cleaner. Wrap the pipe cleaner around the craft stick and secure in place.

INSTRUCTIONS

After the class has created their jingle bell sticks, have them practice playing a few patterns with them. First have them play a steady 4-beat quarter note pattern all together. Then have the class play the rhythm for "Jingle Bells" all together. Divide the class in half and have one half play the 4-beat quarter note pattern while the other plays the "Jingle Bells" pattern. Explain that the students playing the quarter note pattern were the "accompaniment," while the students playing the "Jingle Bells" were the "melody."

Now divide the class into partners. Have each pair play through the song twice, switching roles each time. After the pairs have played through twice, have the class rotate partners and repeat.

OPTIONAL

For older groups, have the pairs choose one of their favorite holiday songs to play as accompaniment and melody. After pairs practice their songs, have volunteers perform their song for the group.