

"Copy Cat" Melodic and Rhythmic Sequences

The "Copy Cat" activity (p 18) is a crucial tool for ear and rhythm training in Level A. Sort of like "Simon Says," the teacher sings a short melodic or rhythmic sequence which the students then repeat back.

Example:

Teacher: "Now we're going to play Copy Cat. *Listen:* (sung) 'Soh-Mee.' *Sing:*"

Student(s): "Soh-Mee."

T: "*Listen:* (sung) 'Soh-Soh-Mee.' *Sing:*"

S: "Soh-Soh-Mee"

T: Good. "*Listen:* (chanted) 'Tah Tah Tah (shh).' *Sing:*"

S: "Tah Tah Tah (shh)." etc...

It is important that the teacher use the cues "Listen" and "Sing" so the student knows when to listen and when to sing. Keep sequences short and simple until students have built up their skills. Melodic sequences should typically be done with their accompanying Body Scale gesture in a comfortable, steady beat. Rhythmic sequences should be chanted (not sung to pitches) at a comfortable tempo. Do not attempt to mix melodic sequences with rhythmic until the students have mastered them separately.

Sequences to Prepare for "Cuckoo":

Body Scale:

Soh - Mee Mee - Doh Soh - Mee - Doh Soh - Mee - Soh - Mee Soh - Soh - Mee - Mee Soh - Soh - Mee - Doh

Rhythms:

Tah Tah Tah Tah Tah Tah Tah (shh) Tah Tah Tah Tah Tah Tah Tah (shh) Tah Tah (shh) (shh)

ti - ti ti - ti Tah Tah Tah ti - ti Tah Tah Tah Tah ti - ti Tah ti - ti ti - ti Tah ti - ti

(You can, of course, create additional similar melodic and rhythmic sequences to use.)

Sequences to Prepare for "My Robot"

Body Scale:

Soh - Lah - Soh Soh - Soh - Lah - Lah - Soh Soh - Lah - Soh - Mee Soh - Soh - Lah - Lah - Soh - Soh - Mee

Rhythms:

Tah - ah Tah - ah Tah Tah Tah - ah Tah - ah Tah - ah Tah - tah (shh) (shh)

Tah Tah Tah Tah Tah - ah Tah - ah Tah - ah Tah Tah Tah - ah Tah - ah

Add percussive movements such as claps, slaps, snaps, etc. to rhythmic sequences.

Sequences to Prepare for “Rain Drops”

Body Scale:

G G G C G G C G G C G
Soh - Mee Soh - Mee - Doh Soh - Lah - Soh Soh - Lah - Soh - Mee Soh - Soh - Lah - Lah - Soh - Soh - Mee

Rhythms:

ti - ti ti - ti Tah - ah Tah ti - ti Tah - ah Tah - ah Tah (shh) (shh) (shh) Tah - ah

Sequences to Prepare for “Ring Around the Rosies”

Body Scale:

C G
Mee - Fah - Soh Mee - Lah - Soh Soh - Mee - Lah - Soh - Mee Soh - Doh Soh - Soh - Doh
Mee - Fah - Soh Mee - Lah - Soh Soh - Mee - Lah - Soh - Mee Soh - Doh Soh - Soh - Doh

Rhythms:

Tah - ti Tah - ti Tah Tah Tah Tah - ti Tah Tah Tah - ti Tah - ti Tah Tah - ti Tah - ti Tah - ti Tah (shh)