

Music

The young fives students have been having a great time in music. Here are some of the things we have been working on.

Using different types of voices:

We often try and use different types of voices in music class. This helps prepare us for using our singing voices which feel different than our talking voices do when we use them.

Singing Call and Response Songs:

Many different call and response songs have been sung, such as *Johnny on the Woodpile* and *No More Pie*. We began by having the teacher sing the song and the students repeat. Then the students became the teacher and they began singing the song for the class to repeat.

Simple Songs:

We have been singing many short songs that only use a few pitches. These songs are great for playing games and instruments. Some of these songs include, *Frog in the Meadow* and *Pitter Patter*.

Finger Plays and Motion Songs and Activities:

Using our bodies help us to learn. The repetitive movements of our bodies help us to learn the text and build the pre-reading skills of noticing patterns. Some of the chants and fingerplays we have done include: *Two Little Blackbirds*, *The Eensy Weensy Spider*, and *Chop, Chop*.

Moving to Recorded Music:

Doing different movements for each section of the music helps us to understand musical form. We learn that we do the same movement each time that part of the music repeats.

Beat and Motion Songs and Games:

Games and songs like *Aiken Drum*, *Engine, Engine* and *Listen, Listen* are wonderful for practicing keeping the beat in a variety of different ways including playing instruments.

Song Tales:

These are longer songs that tell a story. The students have enjoyed listening to these as well as doing motions and looking at children's books while listening to them. Some of these songs include, *Had a Little Rooster*, *Over in the Meadow* and *Mama Buy Me a China Doll*.

We have had a great time discovering and learning together. We cannot wait to learn more next semester. Please feel free to contact me if there are questions regarding the curriculum or the district benchmarks. Thank you for this opportunity to work with your children.

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