

# Music In The Early Childhood Classroom



Michigan Montessori Society ~ March 2018

Presenters: Pat Moore and Patti Yonka

# *A Song Sampling*

- Chants
- Name Songs
- Seasons, Months, Days of the week
- Concept Songs
- Cultural Songs

# Chants

- 5 Little Monkeys jumping on the bed. One fell off and bumped his head. Mama called the doctor and the doctor said, “No more monkeys jumping on the bed!”
- We're Hungry! Very Hungry! We're empty inside!  
Me too!



# Name Songs

- Willaby Wallaby Woo! An elephant sat on you! Willaby Wallaby Wee! An elephant sat on me!
- Willaby Wallaby Wat! An elephant sat on Pat! Willaby Wallaby Wenry! An Elephant sat on Henry! . . .
- Mary, Mary, Mary, Mary, Mary, Mary all day long. Mary, Mary, Mary, Mary! How do you like my Mary song?





Photo: Courtesy of AMI

Quotes: *The Montessori Method*  
pp. 206-208

## Montessori and Music

Quotes from *The Montessori Method*

*...one whose ear has been trained by musical education. . . would be more calm, turning away from the confusion and the discordant sounds. . .*

*...to awaken a sense of rhythm and, so to speak, to give the impulse toward calm and co-ordinate movements to those muscles . . .*

*...simple and primitive instruments are the ones best adapted to the awakening of music in the soul of the child.*

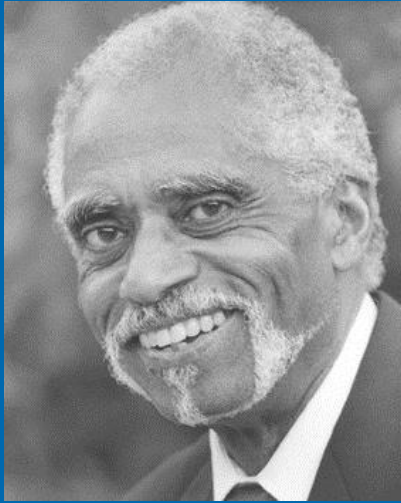
*...many trials. . . observing how the children are not sensitive to the musical tone [melody], but only to the rhythm [beat or pulse].*

# Our Primal Need To Experience Music, Dance and Drama as Holistic Spiritual Life-Force

Professor George Shirley ~ University of Michigan

December 1993 School of Music

Commencement Address Excerpts



- ✓ “Primitive” societies use music, dance, and drama as essential elements of everyday life, i.e. *life force*
- ✓ Western societies with the growth of literacy transformed music, dance and drama into consumer products which are expendable and are mere entertainment
- ✓ No music education means a “gaping hole in the educational fabric of our society; sucking the spirit” out of everything
- ✓ Dependence of every human being upon the spiritual life-force that is inherent in music, dance and drama
- ✓ Be an “advocate for the intrinsic value” of music, dance and drama so that our children may become culturally rich in experiencing these elements



# *Sensorial Development of the Ear*

- Voice
- Silence
- Sound Cylinders
- Montessori Bells



# *Montessori Elements*

## *Anna Maria Maccheroni*

➤ Eurhythmics

Movement

➤ Singing

Singing

➤ Theory

Reading / Writing Music

➤ Auditions

Listening / Performing

# *Movement*

- *Development of beat as an aid to all areas of education*
- *Gross motor development*
- *Body Awareness*
- *Current brain research indicates the mind and body connection*
- *Learning by doing*



Movement Sequence for Basic Rhythmic Competency  
The Work of Phyllis Weikart  
[www.highscope.org](http://www.highscope.org)

Patschening

- Bilateral
- Alternating
- 2 body parts
- 4 body parts

Language

- Say
- Say and do
- Whisper and do
- Think and do

# Seasons, Months, Days

- The Earth goes around the sun, tra-la; the Earth goes around the sun, tra-la. The Earth goes around the sun, tra-la; the Earth goes around the sun.
- Today's a special day. Today's a special day, a very, very, very special day! Hooray!  
Today's a special day. Today's a special day, a very, very, very special day! Hooray!
- Pizza. . . Autumn. . . Spanish. . .
- Vivaldi: Four Seasons, Autumn



# Concept Songs

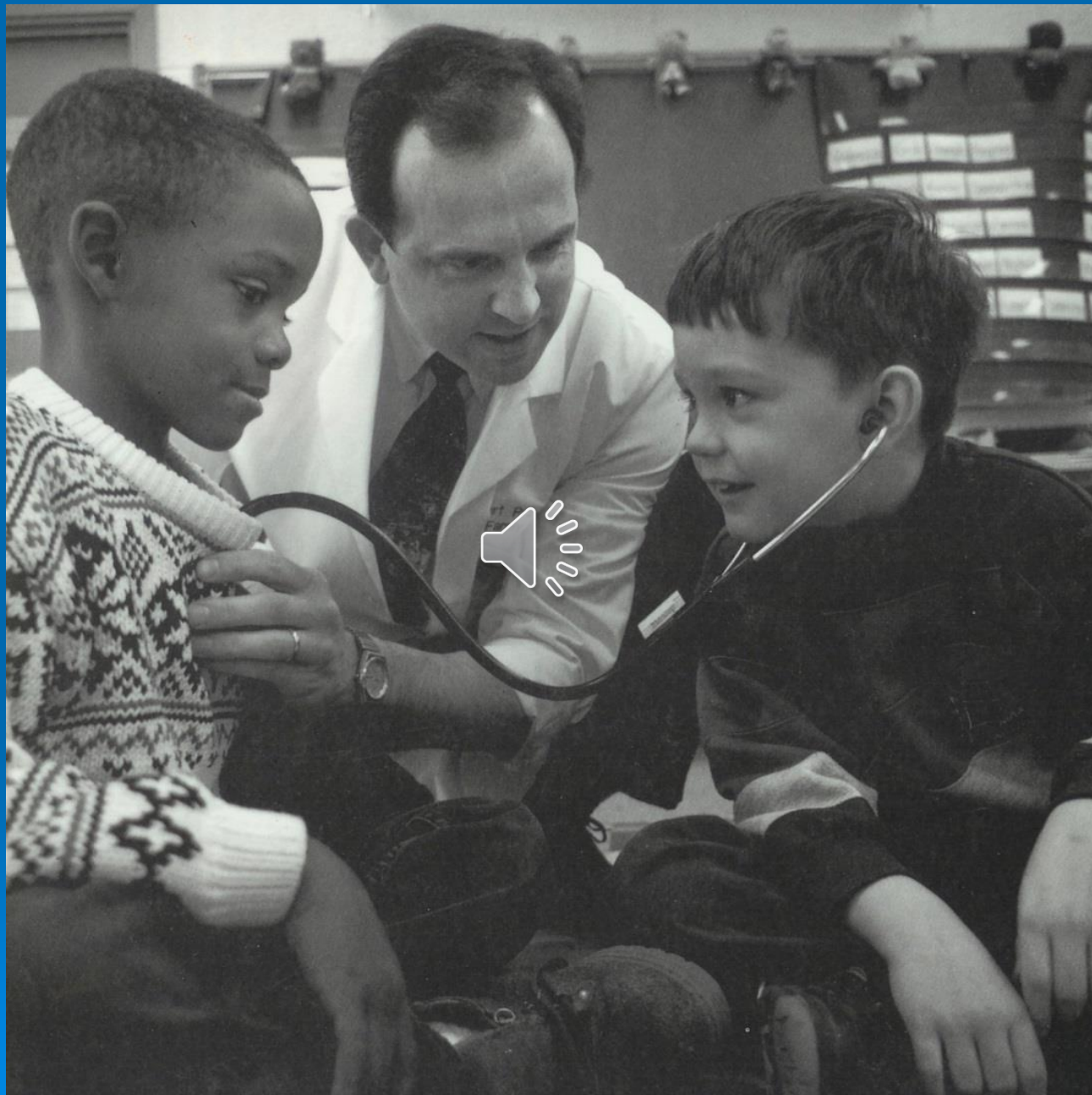
- Open shut them. Open shut them, give a little clap.  
Open shut them. Open shut them. Put them in your lap.  
Walk them, walk them, walk them, walk them right up to  
your chin.  
Open up your little mouth - - but do not put them in!
- When you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.  
(Repeat twice.) When you're happy and you know it, your  
body will really show it. When you're happy and you know  
it, clap your hands.
- When you're calm and you know it, give a smile. . .
- When you're angry and you know it, take a deep breath. . .
- When you're sad and you know it, tell a friend. . .

*The Story  
of  
Music*



# *The Story of Music*

- Connects children to the “first” music
- Focuses on the beat or pulse of music  
~reinforces *patsching*
- Gives concrete experiences involving movement
- Allows for creativity in learning about the “first” instruments
- Connects beat and melody to form music











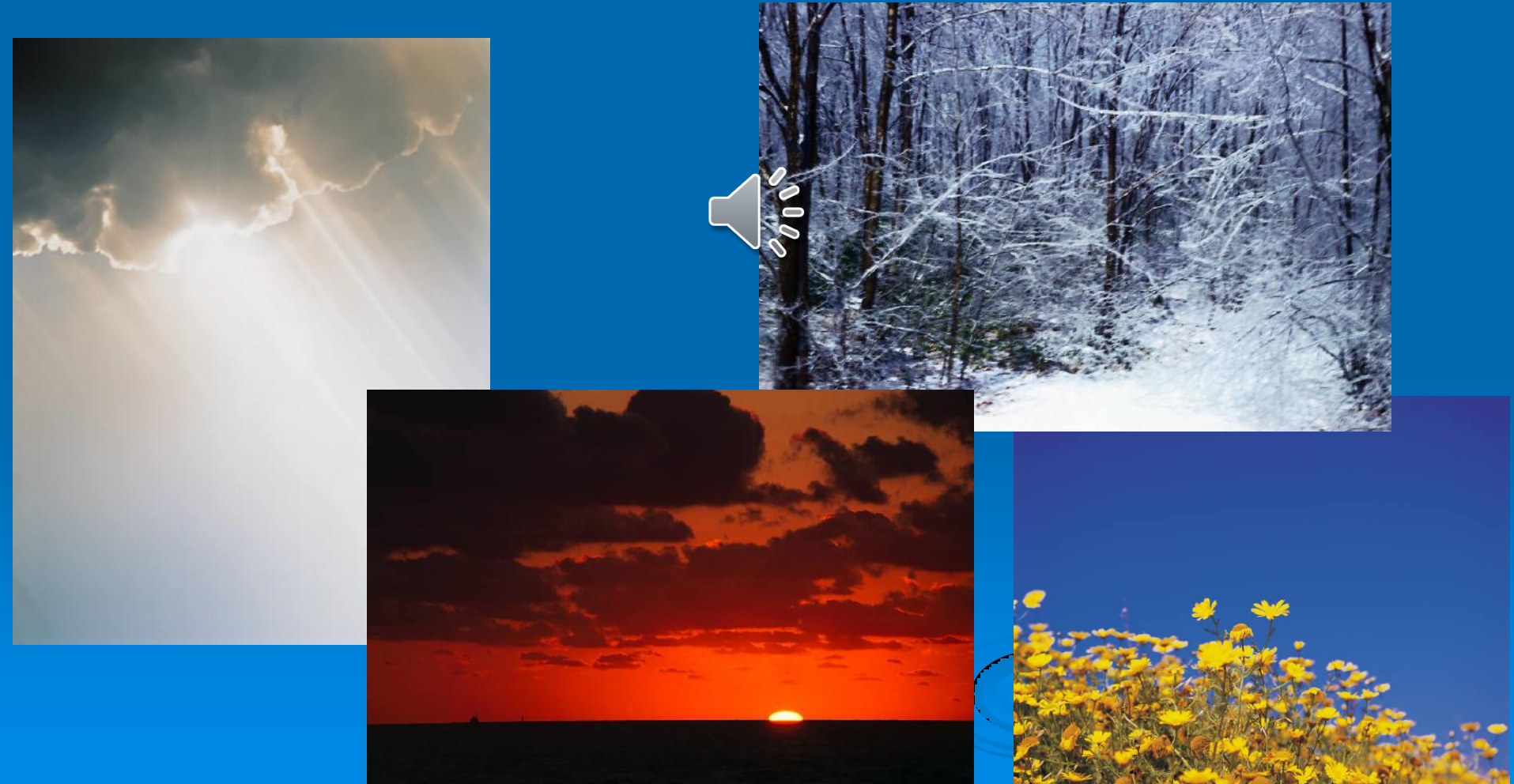


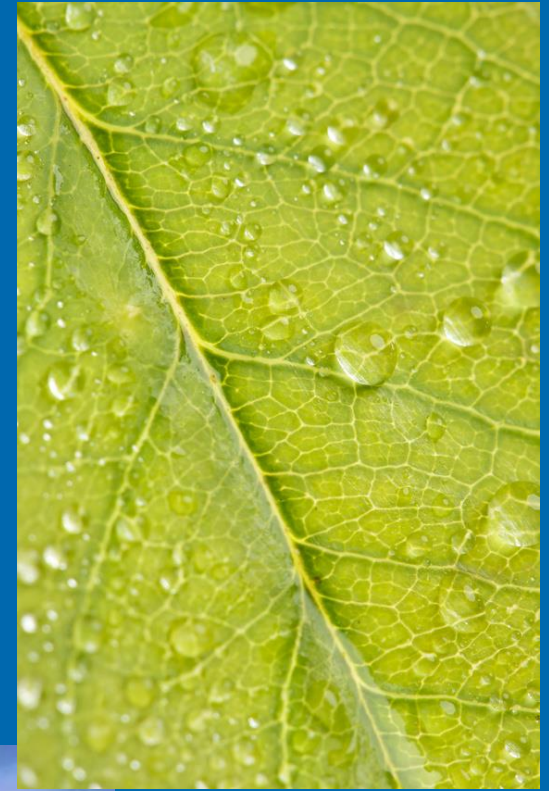




# The Story of Music

Our weather creates a music of its own. Nature sounds add to the music of the Universe.





# The Story of Music

- The first people created music by imitating the sounds of nature and using materials from nature to make music.
- What do you think the first instrument might have been?



# *The First Music*

*Adapted from*

*Musician from the Darkness*

*Author: Claude Clement*

*Illustrator: John Howe*













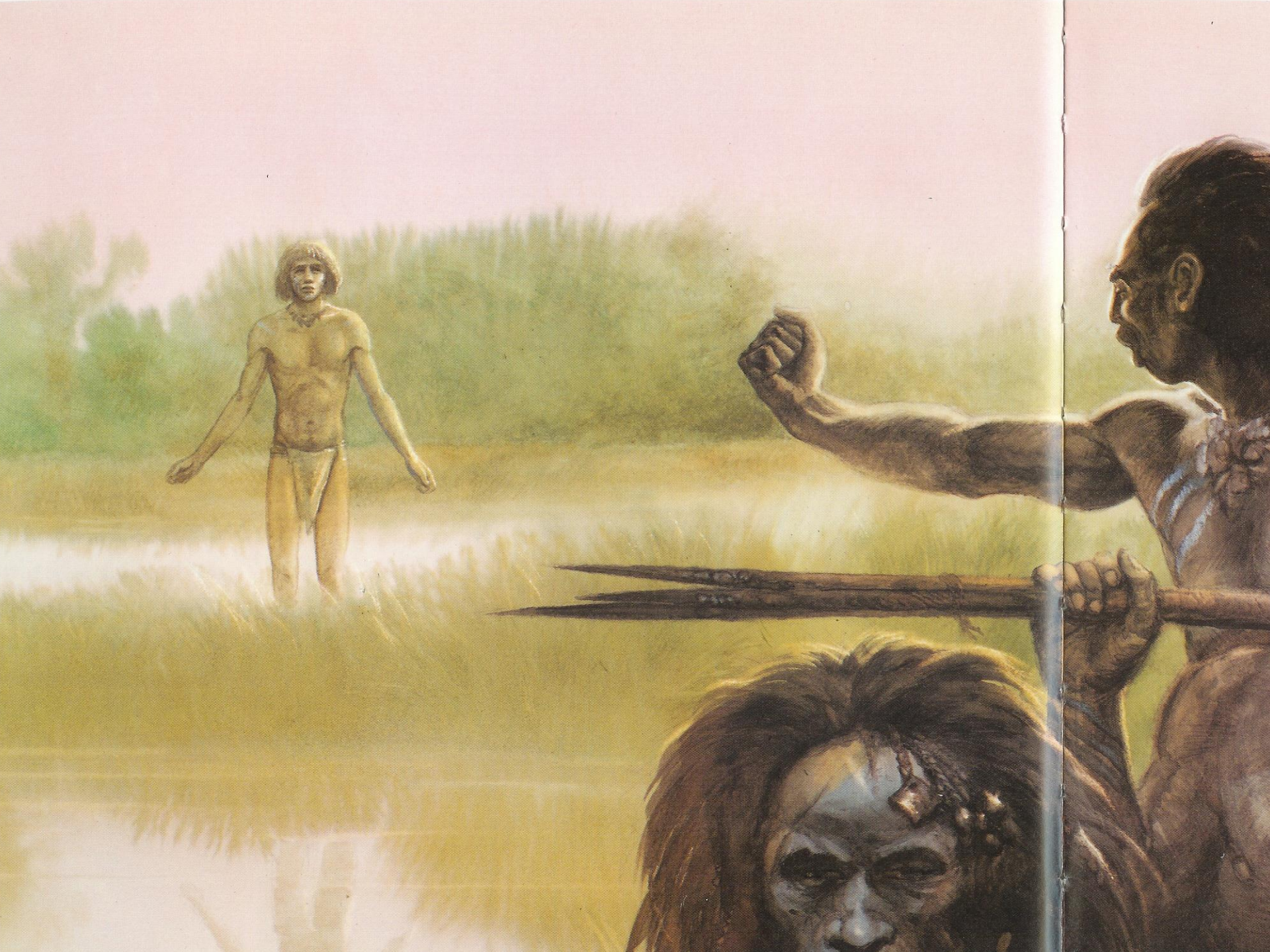
































# Music Can Tell A Story

Oya

- Listen to the music.
- What do you hear?
- What could this music be about?
- What instruments do you hear?
- Do you like this music?
- How does it make you feel?



# *Using Instruments in the Classroom*

- Nomenclature
- Care and handling of an instrument
- Eyes on orchestra conductor: instruments up / instruments down / play as conductor indicates
- Creating music that is free form
- Choice of Instruments



# Cultural Songs

## ***The Continent Song*** *by Sanford Jones*

*North America, South America, Africa, Europe, and Asia!*

*North America, South America, Africa, Europe, and Asia!*

*Don't forget Australia! Don't forget Anarctica!*

*North America, South America, Africa, Europe, and Asia!*

***The Lion Sleeps Tonight! ~ Plate Aerobics***  
*South Africa*



# Sing With Your Children!

- We are flowers in one garden. We are drops in one sea. Come and join us in our quest for unity. It's a way of life for you and me.
- We are leaves on one branch. We are cattle on one ranch. Come and join us in our quest for unity. It's a way of life for you and me.
- We are people in one group. We are pieces of one puzzle.  
Come and join us in our quest for unity. It's a way of life for you and me.
- We are keys on one keyboard. That's the key to you and me.  
Come and join us in our quest for unity. It's a way of life for you and me.

# *Rhythm*

- **Beat** is the pulse felt in music. It is either in 2 (duple meter) or in 3 (triple meter).
- **Rhythm** gives variety to music and makes the melody more interesting.
- Children can learn the rhythm of their names by rote (ear)
- Rhythmic notation begins with the children learning the beat of their names and how to write (notate) this.

# Zum Gali Gali Gali

- Chorus: Zum gali, gali, gali; zum gali, gali! Zum gali, gali, gali; zum gali, gali! Zum gali, gali, gali; Zum gali, gali! Zum gali, gali, gali, Zum!
- Peace is meant for people. People are meant for peace.  
(English) Chorus
- Ha shalom le' man ha amin. Ha amin le' man ha shalom. (Hebrew) Chorus
- E' salaamu le e'nasi. E' na suu le' salaam. (Arabic) Chorus

# *Rhythm ~ Stick Notation*

## Teacher Information

- The Beat of Your Name
- The Rhythm of Your Name

## Lessons for Children

- 1 syllable objects
- 2 syllable objects





# Colors of Earth by Sarah Pirtle

- Chorus: Who can count all the colors of earth? Each color is different, each color is true. We are made of the colors of earth and I love the colors that made you.
- Tell me the names of the colors of earth: the purple of eggplant, the purple of peach; The green and the black of the rocks on the beach, and the sun on the mountain in the morning. Chorus.
- When I look in the eyes of my friends, I can see topaz, I can see sky; The green and the gray of the sea rolling by, and the dazzling brown river in the morning. Chorus
- When I look at the hands of my friends, I can see chestnut, I can see corn; The color of wheat fields or a dappled brown fawn and the rain-kissed black trees in the morning. Chorus
- Earth that I love, do you know how I feel? How much I love sea shells? How much I love stones? When I walk barefoot in the fields all alone, I sing out a song to the morning. Chorus.

Thank You!

Enjoy Music!

