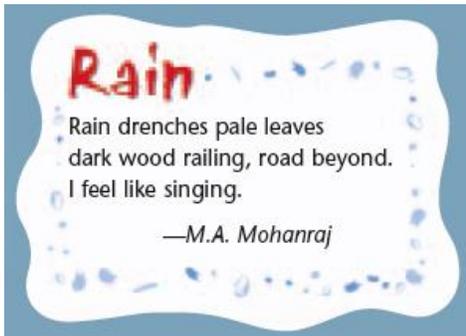


CLASS COMPOSITION

LESSON PLAN (This plan takes 30 minutes start to finish.)



1. Read a rain haiku like the one to the left from page 27 of the Spotlight on Music series, 4th grade.
2. Discuss how we might add body percussion to these words as suggested in the book.
3. Read the haiku again, this time with the body percussion accompaniment.
4. Read Listen to the Rain by Bill Martin Jr. asking students to think about how we might create an accompaniment for this story. (The book could be scanned and projected as students read it to themselves or the teacher could read the book aloud.)
5. Using a variety of classroom percussion instruments adding the sounds cumulatively and eliminating them in the opposite order to which they entered. Determine at which page specific groups of like sounding instruments will begin and also when they will end.
6. Experience the story again with your class accompaniment plan.
7. Perform again, this time recording the performance using Audio Recorder (Mac) or Sound Recorder (Windows). (The teacher could insert this recording in the PowerPoint slideshow of the book at a later date or play back the recording as students read the book one last time.)
8. Create a Rain Cinquain. *1st line = a noun, your subject (1 word); 2nd line = 2 adjectives to describe the subject (2 words); 3rd line = an action statement to describe the noun (3 words); 4th line = how the subject makes you feel (4 words); 5th line = a noun, restating the subject in a new way (1 word)*
9. Plan, perform and record this new composition with or without the words of the cinquain read aloud.

Thanks to Angela LaBranch, music teacher in St. Louis, Missouri for this idea.