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## score for Song (in) Books

1 message

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### ***Song (in) Books***

by Andy Ingamells & Kirkos  
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#### Preparation:

Find a novel you like which contains italicised song lyrics on one of the pages. Try to avoid a song that is too long; stick to something that is approx 4–12 lines. Think about the melody that you hear in your head when you read these lyrics. Sing it aloud to yourself. Try to sing exactly what is in your head when imagining the song. Only sing a familiar tune if that is really what you imagine.

Next, highlight or circle all the nouns in the lyrics in one colour, and all the verbs in the lyrics in another colour.

You don't need instruments for this piece. Just your individual books. Before the performance, number yourselves from 1 to 7 (or however many performers there are). **Seems to work best with 4 or 5 players**

The whole performance should be on the soft side, like a bedtime story.

#### Performance:

##### **SECTION 1**

-All players sit around the audience with their books.

-Player 1 reads the sentence of text that precedes the lyrics in their normal reading voice, then sings the lyrics, then follows this by reading the sentence of text that comes after the lyrics. Let's call this **read-sing-read**.

-As Player 1 finishes reading, Player 2 begins to read-sing-read. As Player 2 is doing read-sing-read, Player 1 sings their melody again in their head on a loop, but when they get to a noun they hum or whistle the note out loud. This is the **accompaniment**.

-As Player 2 finishes reading, Player 3 begins to read-sing-read and Players 1 and 2 continue the accompaniment.

-This process continues until all the players have done read-sing-read and everyone is doing the accompaniment.

##### **SECTION 2**

-There should be no break between SECTION 1 and SECTION 2.

-Do the whole process again, but with everyone doing the accompaniment from the beginning. The order of players doing read-sing-read should be different. If it was 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 in SECTION 1, then it should be something like 3 5 2 1 6 7 4 in SECTION 2.

-After each player has done read-sing-read for the second time they should also whistle or hum on the verbs as well as the nouns.

-The process continues until all the players have done read-sing-read for the second time and everyone is doing the accompaniment with ~~vowels~~ **verbs** as well as nouns.

##### **SECTION 3 (ending)**

-There should be no break between SECTION 2 and SECTION 3.

-Do the whole process again, but with everyone doing the accompaniment with nouns and verbs from the beginning. The order of players doing read-sing-read should be different. If it was 3 5 2 1 6 7 4 in SECTION 2 then it should be something like 5 7 1 6 4 3 2 in SECTION 3.

-After each player has sung their lyrics for the third time they should keep repeating their final note and word in the rhythm of their whole song. They should keep doing this softly until the end of the performance. Let's call this the

**pedal accompaniment.**

-As the final player finishes their song the accompanying players doing the pedal accompaniment should quickly fade out, and the final player reads the sentence that follows their lyrics. This is the end of the performance.

Sent from my iPhone