Sing, Move, Play: Professional Development Action Plan

Introduction/Big Idea

"There isn't one 'right' way to teach a song. The goal is to have a toolbox of approaches and choose the strategy that best fits the song, students, and musical objective."

The Toolbox Strategies
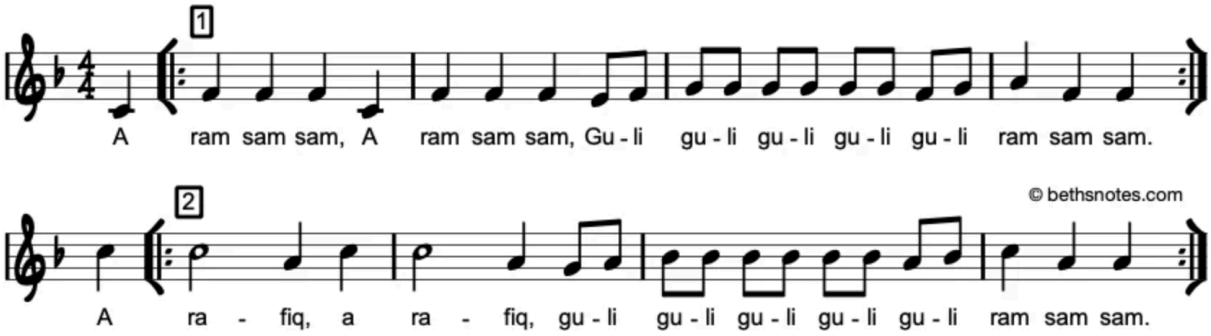
- **Rote**: Teach phrase-by-phrase, using echoing and repetition (Sound before symbol).
- **Movement-Based**: Connect music to body awareness and rhythm (e.g., patting the beat, showing form through motion).
- **Guided Questions**: Use inquiry to help students discover musical elements (e.g., 'What do you notice?', 'What changes?').
- **Games**: Reinforce repetition and engagement through play (e.g., Lucy Locket, Doggie Doggie).
- **Storytelling**: Use narratives to introduce context, imagery, and memory cues before teaching the song.

Action Planning Template
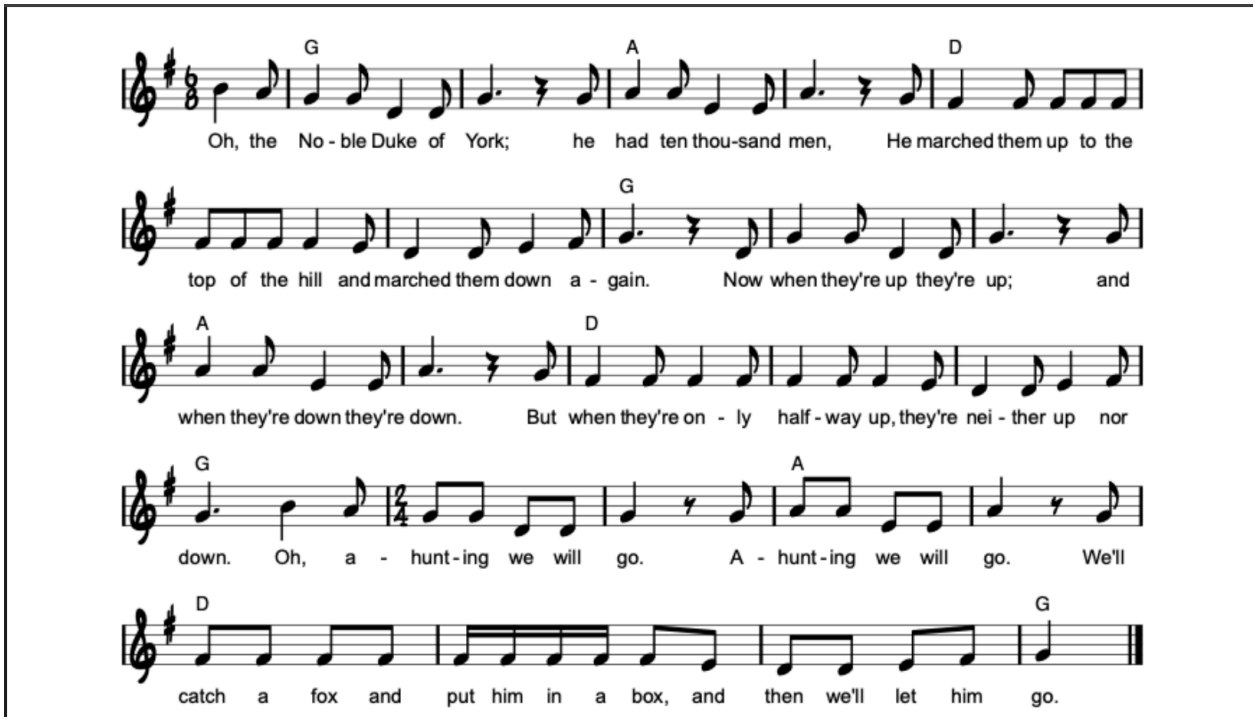
Selected Song: _____
Objective for Learning: _____
New Approach to Explore: _____
Student Action/Engagement: _____

Song Examples & Implementation Table
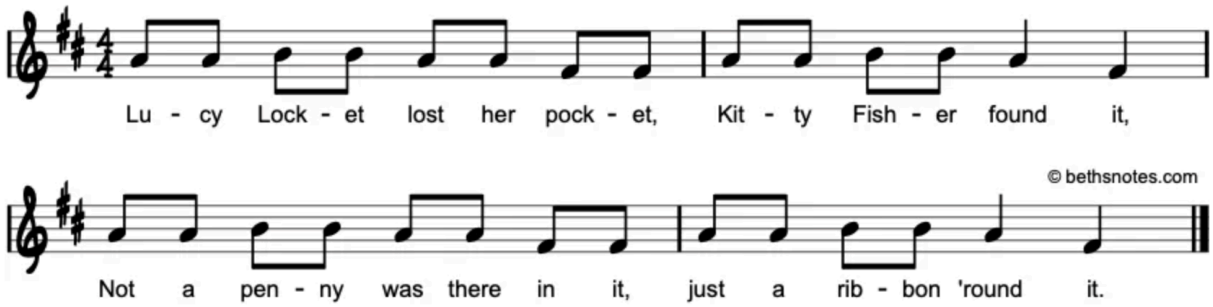
Song Title	Strategy Example	Implementation Idea
A Ram Sam Sam	Rote	Teach phrase-by-phrase, echoing, then combine into the full song.



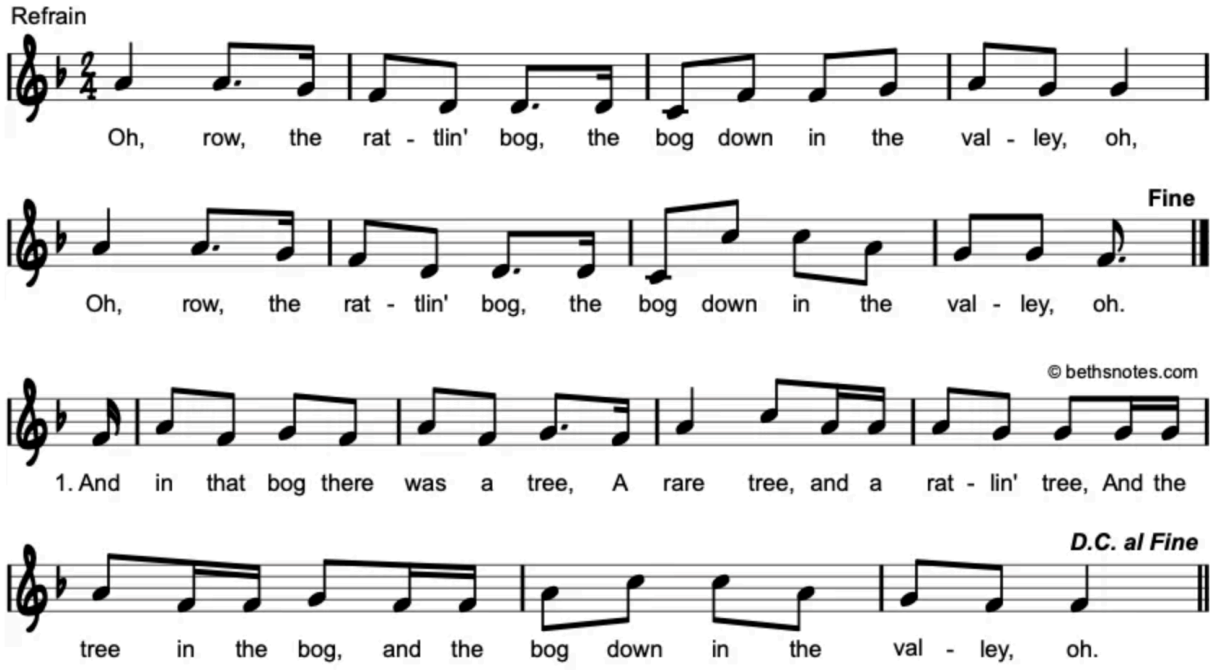
Noble Duke of York	Movement	Use motions to reinforce the beat or demonstrate phrasing.



Lucy Locket	Games	Play hide-and-seek with the 'pocket' to practice dynamics (louder/softer).
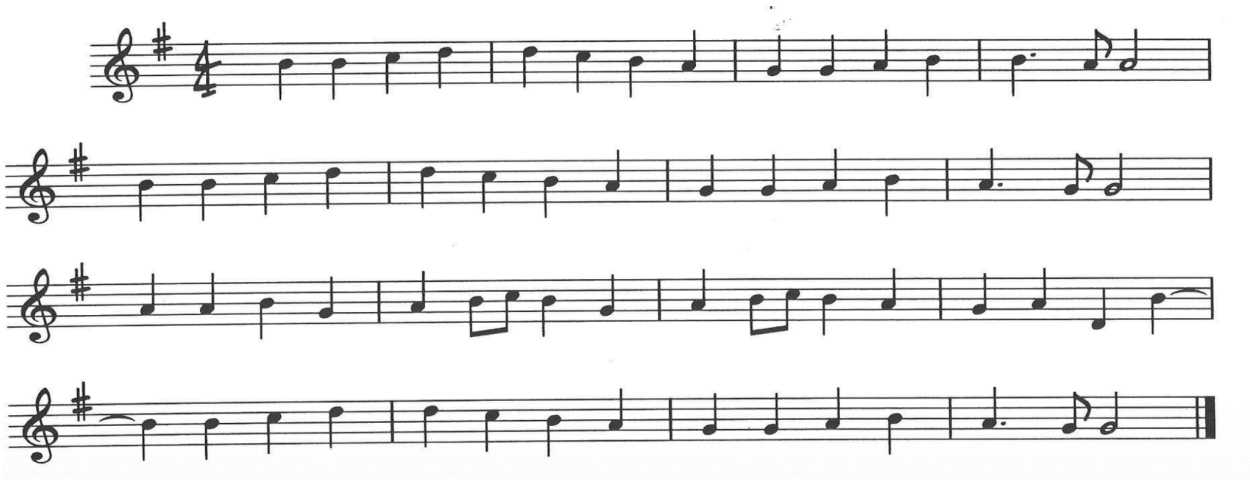


The Rattlin' Bog	Storytelling	Tell the story first to create context, imagery, and memory cues.



2. And on that tree there was a limb, A rare limb and a rattlin' limb,
   and the limb on the tree, and the tree in the bog, and the bog down...
3. And on that limb there was a branch...
4. And on that branch there was a nest...
5. And in that nest there was an egg...
6. And in that egg there was a bird...
7. And in that bird there was a feather...
8. And on that feather, there was a flea...

Ode to Joy	Guided Questions	Ask 'What do you notice about the beginning and end?' rather than telling students the form.



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