

Lesson Plan by Cayla Davenport

Lesson: Musical Straws

Length: 5 minutes

Grade Intended: Third grade

Academic Standard(s): 3.3.9 Demonstrate that things make sound do so by vibrating, such as vocal cords and musical instruments.

Performance Objectives: Students will demonstrate the vibration of different sounds by using straws to perform an original tune.

Assessment: Once in groups, students will cut their straws into different lengths to create a variety of sounds and create an original tune from those sounds to perform for the class.

Advanced Preparation by Teacher:

- 1) Straws
- 2) Scissors

Procedure:

Prior Lesson: Students would have learned that different sounds come from various objects. Such as: a whistle can only make one constant sounds whereas a clarinet can make multiple sounds. They would have explored how the different objects could make different sounds. The whistle is short and the wind creates the shrill sound; however, a clarinet is long and has many holes to create several different sounds. Homework for the night would have been to find everyday items that can make different sounds.

Introduction/Motivation: Remember when we talked about how different objects can make many different sounds?

Step-by-Step Plan:

- 1) Have a brief discussion on what sort of everyday objects they found that make different sounds.
- 2) What most of those have in common is that each uses vibrations to create their sound no matter how unique it is, like musical instruments.
- 3) I have for you your own musical instruments.
 - a. Pass out straws already cut

- 4) For time purposes I already cut a V on one end of your straw.
- 5) How would I make my sound different if I only have a straw?
- 6) Get into groups of five or six and compose your own original tune (lasting no more than 30 seconds) using your straws.
 - a. Try to make each person have their own sound to contribute to the group.

Closure: Can you see now how vibrations can create numerous sounds and sensations? I wonder who was the first person to think of blowing through a tube and creating vibrations to create a sound? Take that with you and do a little research to share with us during the next class period.

Adaptations/Enrichment:

Enrichment- Have students answer the closing question at home, to make sure that a few students can answer the question during the following class period.

Adaptations- The straws will already be cut, and the groups will rely on each other to create a short tune

Self- Reflection:

Did the students seem to enjoy themselves?

Should I add more to the lesson? Get rid of some?

Did the lesson focus too much on whole group, and not enough on independent work?

Was the lesson too simple for some students? Too challenging for others?