

Planning of the music curriculum in singing assemblies

Singing assemblies count towards the children's weekly music learning time. The assemblies are therefore clearly planned, sequenced and link to singing objectives to ensure the children's music skills and knowledge are being developed.

Sing assembly structure:

1. Warm up - 5/10 minutes.
2. Learning/practising a new song (linked to a theme for that half term)
3. Singing a known hymn.

1. Warm up activities

The warm helps to develop the children's vocal health and also engages the children from the start of assembly. Warm activities will be used at the start of the singing assembly.

Type	Details	Example Activities <small>Appropriate for KS1 unless stated as KS2</small>
Physical	Include warm ups that are for the whole body as well as the voice. This will help to relax muscles before singing, and can be good to focus attention on the session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rubber chicken • Pumpkin face/ raisin face • Bananas of the world unite • Banana Apple Strawberry
Body percussion	Body percussion warm ups develop overall musicianship as well as the voice, and encourage children who are more nervous about their voice to join in.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alive Alert Awake enthusiastic (KS2) • Shoulder Click Clap (KS2) • First you make your fingers click (KS2)
Breathing	Ensuring breath support is fully engaged makes sure that children are singing healthily, and not straining their voices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rubber Ring
Posture	Explain to the children what happens to their lungs and diaphragm when they slouch. Understanding will encourage them to maintain good posture during the session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand like a soldier
Tongue twisters	If you find that children are struggling to get their mouths around the words of a song, definitely introduce tongue twister warm ups to get the tongue, teeth and lips moving.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My mother makes me mash my mini M&Ms • How much wood can a woodchuck chuck? (KS2)
Vocal Range	Gently warming up the entire vocal range of your students will prevent students tiring or hurting their voices and ensure healthy singing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humming • 1 2 3 4 5 • 1, 121, 12321 (KS2)

Watch this video to see how to do each activity listed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fi33MtqRd6A>

2. Learning/practising a new song

The teachers leading and supporting the assemblies will be focusing on the following National Curriculum aims:

KS1 - To use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes.

Specific learning objectives for each year group:

Reception - Sing and perform movements to a steady beat (Taken from the EYFS).

Year 1 - Sing with **expression**, confidence and creativity.

Year 2 - Sing songs using creativity and **expression** being able to create dramatic effect.

KS2 - Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.

Specific learning objectives for each year group

Year 3 - Begin to understand the importance of **pronouncing** the words in a song well.

Year 4 - Understand the importance of **pronouncing** the words in a song well.

Year 5 - Perform songs with an awareness of the **meaning** of the words.

Year 6 - Sing a **harmony** part confidently and accurately.

Each term, the children will learn new song(s) linked to a theme. See table below:

2022 - 2023	
Autumn 1 - Harvest	Autumn 2 - Christmas
Spring 1 - Being Positive (PHSE) <i>(Children's mental health week 6th- 12th Feb)</i>	Spring 2 - Easter
Summer 1 - Keeping fit! (PE) <i>(Walk to School Week 15th-19th May)</i>	Summer 2 - Friendship and equality (PHSE) <i>(International Day of Friendship 30th July)</i>

The themes enable cross curricular links to be made other subjects: RE, PHSE and PE and promote diversity and equality in our music curriculum.

3. Singing a known hymn/song.

Ending the session with a song the children know helps them to leave the assembly feeling confident in their singing. Revisiting hymns/songs also helps learning to be 'sticky' which is an essential part of our curriculum at Curry Rivel Primary School.