

Chop! Chop! Chippity Chop!

Finding a Singing Voice and Creating New Melodies

Step One

Tell the students you are making soup. Ask each student to name something they would like to put into the soup. Recite chant after each student's answer.

Step Two

Sing that you would like to add something to the soup. "What should we put into our soup today?" Sing the word "carrots." Have the students echo, "carrots" and then recite the chant. Sing the question to each student about what they would like to put in the soup. If a student sings something, wonderful! If a student uses his/her speaking voice, ask the student if they can use their singing voice (Do this by singing yourself!). After each student sings their answer, have the other students echo. Recite the chant after each student's answer.

Step Three

Tell students that they will all have a chance to make up a song. Tell them that you will sing, "Chop! Chop! Chippity chop!" and when you gesture to an individual, they will sing back "Cut off the bottom, cut off the top." It is necessary to give the directions to EACH student before conducting this exercise the first few times.

Step Four

Tell students that they are going to turn "Chop! Chop! Chippity Chop!" into a circle song. You will sing, "Chop! Chop! Chippity Chop!" the next student will sing "Cut off the bottom, cut off the top." The next student will sing, "What we have left, we'll put in the pot." The next student will sing, "Cut off the bottom and cut off the top!" Have the four participating students speak their line before beginning the circle song. Continue around the circle until all students have had a chance to participate.