

# Mississippi College—Overview/Review of the Singing Voice

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EVERYONE can sing!

## Developmental Stages of Singing

1. Listening - What are those sounds?
2. Exploration - What does my voice do?
3. Imitation - Oh, I'm supposed to sound like that!
4. Rhythmic speech - E-I-E-I-O.
5. Melodic/expressive speech - Not by the hair of my chinny chin chin!
6. Sing the melodic contour - The same, but different.
7. Sing within a narrow pitch range - na-na, na-na, boo-boo.
8. Sing in an expanded pitch range.

Children learn best through play.

Repetition, repetition, repetition, repetition, repetition. If you think you've done it enough,  
do it one more time!

Sing for the children. Let the children sing for you.

Posture - feet slightly apart, shoulders relaxed, arms by side.

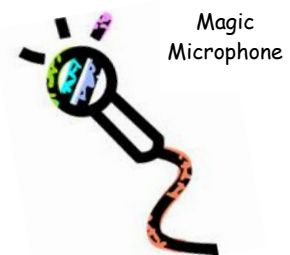
Breathe - take in lots of air.

Head voices - kick up the pitch!

Solo singing



Songs without words - will successfully include ESOL and speech delayed students.



## Activities:

Sliding & sirens - vocal exploration

*Hello There* - echo song (imitation)

*Look to the Window* - transition song

*Three Little Pigs* (rhythmic speech/expressive speech)

This is my \_\_\_\_\_ voice (comparing "voices")

*Pop-up* - transition song (sol-mi)

*Pizza-Pizza* - singing game (limited range; sol-mi and la)

*No More Pie* (expanded range; limited pitches)

*Old Obidiah* (just for fun!)



Use  
a variety  
of activities  
every day to include  
children at each level!

## Sources:

*Hello There* - *Integrating Music into the Elementary Classroom* (9th edition).  
Anderson & Lawrence. Schirmer Cengage Learning.

*Look to the Window* - Adapted from *Music Play*. Valerio, Reynolds, Bolton,  
Taggart, & Gordon. GIA Publications.

*Three Little Pigs*, *Pizza-Pizza*, *No More Pie* and *Old Obidiah* are available  
at [www.do-re-mi-kids.com](http://www.do-re-mi-kids.com). Click on "Workshops" then "Mississippi College."



Book note: On page 74 of your textbook, there is a recommendation to have children sing "This is my singing voice" on a single pitch. Please note that it is more difficult for a child to sing on a single pitch than two or more pitches.

Next to parents, classroom teachers are a child's  
most important singing role model!