

Group Violin Activity

Age: 7-8

Skill level: elementary- a couple months of lessons

Objective: Loud and soft playing with bow

Materials: Instruments and a piece rosin

Playing loudly:

- “Okay class, I have a friend, Tony the Tiger, and he can roar really loud, can you guys roar really loud?”
- Okay let all roar together on three, ready 1,2,3 ROAR!

- So, Tony the tiger, is learning violin and he wants to know how to play louder to sound like his roar.

- Do you guys know what Tony can do to play louder with his bow?”
 - Using more bow
 - Pressing more firmly
 - Moving the bow faster

- Play 4 quarter notes loudly with bow
 - Whole bow for loud notes
 - Teacher show first then students copy

- The teacher asks if anyone knows a musical term for playing loudly (students in a general music class or who have taken piano lessons might know)
- If student knows the answer, also ask how it is shown in music
 - Forte and is shown as an “f” in music

Playing quietly:

- “Okay I also have this friend, Mia the mouse, she has a really quiet squeak. Can you guys squeak really softly like a mouse? (all speak like mice)

- Mia is also learning to play violin, a really small one, but she want to know how to play quietly like her squeak.”

- “Can you guys give me ideas how Mia can play softly with her bow”
 - Using less bow (tape to tape)
 - Less pressure

- Play 4 quarter notes softly with bow
 - Tape to tape for quieter notes
 - Teacher show first then students copy

- Teacher asks if anyone knows a musical term for playing quietly and if student can answer ask how it is shown in music
 - Piano and shown as a "p"

Game/closing:

Play hide the rosin game

- One student will leave the room and the others will hide the rosin in the room.
- The student will return and the student play on open string and play piano when the student is farther away and play forte when they are getting closer.
- “Okay class have you ever played hot and cold?”
- Well we are going to do the same thing but playing forte and piano
- We are going to keep playing quarter notes but use more bow and more pressure to play louder and less bow and less pressure to play softer.”

Assessment

- The teacher can assess the students by observing their ability to accurately play the correct dynamics using the techniques taught in the lesson