PizzIMMERSION

Professional Learning Activities

Mini lesson plan

Title

Funga Alafia

Year level suggested

Years 1-6

Useful for

Focus

Brain breaks

Teamwork

Creativity

Bonding

Signalling change of lesson

Materials

None or a range of instruments or body percussion

Background

This is a simple Nigerian welcome song

Lyrics

Funga alafia,

Ashay, ashay (repeat)

Translation: Welcome, blessings or let it be so

Learning intention

To confidently sing the song then use the structure/format to create their own 'verses' using body percussion, vocalisation or instruments as desired.

Steps

- 1. Begin by singing the song for students. Either have them join in as they feel comfortable or specify 1 or 2 words for the students to sing each time to slowly build their knowledge
- 2. Practise the song as a call and response. Teacher sings 'Funga Alafia' and students respond with 'Ashay ashay'.
- 3. Once familiar, add your own 'verses' using body percussion, vocalization or instruments
- 4. Add a steady beat and assign the role of 'beat keeper' to a student or group of students
- 5. Assign the role of 'layer creator' to another student or group
- 6. The 'beat keeper' gives 16 beats whilst the 'layer creator' improvises a pattern over the top. Tip: keep it simple and start with one layer at a time until students are exceedingly confident!
- 7. After each verse, return to singing the song in its original format

Extensions:

Have students work in small groups to create and present their own version of the song + verses.

Encourage students to use varied sounds when creating layers – try to make a sound nobody else has and find a 'gap in the music to place your sound.

Record (audio/written) favourite layering patterns to use again!

Curriculum links

Music

- Explore and Express Ideas
- Music Practices
- Present and Perform

Capabilities

- · Personal and Social
 - Social Awareness and Management, Collaboration



