

	TITLE	TONE SET (Of Melody)	KEY	METRE	PLAYERS PER 1.6 OCTAVE XYLO.
1.	Australia – It'll Amaze Ya [Round]	C D E F G A	D minor	4/4	2
2.	Baby Wet, Baby Dry	Rhyme	x	4/4	x
3.	Volcano	Rhyme	x	4/4	x
4.	Gecko On The Fly-Screen	E G A	C doh Pentatonic	4/4	2
5.	Crocodile, Crocodile	D F A	D la Pentatonic	6/8	2
6.	Someone Stole My Thinking Cap	C D F	Tri-tonal	4/4	2
7a.	My Banana Canon (Grand Intro)	F A C F'	F doh Pentatonic	4/4	2
7b.	My Banana Canon	C F G A C'	F doh Pent.	4/4	1
8.	Planet Earth	C D E G A	C doh Pentatonic	4/4	2
9.	Tip Turkey (Mini Rap)	Rhyme	x	4/4	x
10.	Swing It Like Da Mon-keys [The Improv. Song]	C D F G A	D la Pentatonic	4/4	2
11.	Music In The Windows	C D E F G A	C major	4/4	2
12.	Underneath The Mango Tree [Round]	C D E F G A	D minor	4/4	2
13.	The Glass Canoe	C D F G A C' D'	D la Pentatonic	6/8	1
14.	Pirate Treasure	C D E F G A	F doh Pentatonic	4/4	2
15.	Famous Because	C D F G A	F doh Pentatonic	6/8	2
16.	Green Tea, China Sea	C D F G A C'	D la Pentatonic	4/4	1
17.	Springtime Song 1 & 2	C D F G A C' D'	F doh Pentatonic	4/4	1
18.	Get Along Now	C D E G A C'	C doh Pentatonic	6/8	1
19.	Two Little Love Birds	C D F G A C'	F doh Pentatonic	4/4	1
20.	The Silk Road	C D E G A B C' D' E' F' G' A'	A minor	4/4	1

MUSICALITY AND CREATIVITY

XYLO BEAT AUSTRALIA is a collection of songs and rhymes for primary school music teachers and students. In the last few years I have begun an exciting journey into the wonderful world of Orff Schulwerk - my life as a composer and teacher will never be quite the same! This project is part of that journey.

The pieces here-in are of varying difficulty, ranging from simple rhymes through to fairly challenging songs. Some are 'rounds' and some work well as both choral and percussion pieces. Many also support maximum use of resources by being playable by two students per single xylophone. All the pieces have been arranged with accompanying ostinati. For teachers I have included lyrics for all parts in order to take the pain out of having to develop word ostinati. Creating quality lyrics, that withstand scrutiny, is also very important to me as a composer. The main aim has been to compose a variety of worthy musical ensemble pieces which impart a sense of fun and adventure; to inspire the student to 'play with' the songs and to use them as a platform for improvisation or creation of their own rhymes, dances, ostinati &/or music.

Ostinati accompaniments are a common and pivotal feature in Orff Schulwerk that simultaneously permit a variety of performance levels. Throughout the whole learning process it is most important to "integrate movement, speech, singing and instrumental playing to the greatest possible degree - allowing one element to develop from another and combining all activities in concluding creative projects." ¹

When using the songs as percussion arrangements, a useful teaching/learning sequence can be:

Vocal → Body percussion/movement → Musical instrument

Once the students are confident with the lyric, rhythm and/or melody of each part, a vocal arrangement can be built. Parts can then be learned (and performed) using body percussion &/or movements. The final transition to an instrumental arrangement, (or integrated vocal, movement and instrumental arrangement), should now be a relatively smooth process.

In developing such a performance piece it is up to the teacher and students to take ownership of the arrangement. The CD recordings are merely quick sketches showing the various parts. Similarly, the parts as written are there to select from, to use as the teacher and students see fit. Teachers, as always, will adapt the pieces to the needs of the children and the situation. With the possible exception of the F pentatonic log drum, all instruments I have indicated/suggested in these arrangements will be found in the average Orff Schulwerk music room.

Layering of the entry (and exit) of each instrument, movement or part, and deciding on how to conclude the piece allows room for lots of creativity to come into play. Improvisation may also feature. Use of these strategies can be a powerful vector for students' learning and development of 'musicality', as well as being directly aligned with National Curriculum requirements emphasizing 'active participation' and creative process.

XYLO BEAT AUSTRALA is about the children making music - having fun making music. I hope teachers and students enjoy playing with the songs and find they engage both heart and mind.

Ian Ross Williams

¹Michael Kugler