



# World Voice (WV) Hong Kong Video Guides

**Teacher Notes** 

These notes are intended for use alongside the WV Hong Kong Master Trainer Video Guides available online at

https://vimeo.com/album/4589003

### Introduction

The programme aims to support teaching and learning in the classroom through singing.

The objectives of the programme are:

- To promote the use of singing and music teaching techniques in all subjects.
- 2. To support the inclusion of all pupils in the lesson.
- 3. 3. To capture and sustain the interest of all pupils.
- 4. 4. To encourage teachers to use livelier and more engaging techniques.
- 5. To improve classroom management and encourage a positive learning atmosphere.
- 6. 6. To help raise achievement

## **Video 1: Preparing to Sing**

In this video you will see some techniques for engaging children and warming up the body. It is important to relax through physical warm-ups before singing. In order to stand correctly, place the feet hip width apart, soften the knees, tuck the pelvis under and relax the shoulders. Arms should hang loosely by the side.

Below are some suggestions for 'copy me' or 'follow me' exercises. Children respond positively to play and games and often don't realise that they are learning at the same time. 'Copy me' exercises will support behaviour management in the classroom. They help to attract pupils' attention and to develop their motor skills.

- Clap simple rhythms and ask the pupils to copy you
- Play 'Simon Says': 'Simon says touch your nose', 'Simon says touch your ears', 'Simon says clap your hands' then 'touch your toes'. Whenever you miss out the 'Simon says' they must not copy the action. Have a child lead the activity: 'Wai says...', 'Shirley says...'
- Play 'Don't Clap This One Back':
   pupils clap back each rhythm they
   hear except the one for 'don't clap
   this one back'. When they hear this,
   they must remain silent.

#### Video 2: Facial Exercises

The face, mouth and jaw need to be relaxed if the pupils are to produce a good sound. There are lots of fun ways to exercise the face. In this video you can see:

'Scrunch and Pull'. This exercise will help to warm up the facial muscles. Pupils love pulling funny faces and you could extend this exercise by developing facial expressions and voices for different characters in a story e.g happy face, sad face, angry face etc.



'Magic Chewing Gum'. This will help to get the mouth moving! Ask the pupils to imagine they are unwrapping some 'magic' gum. It can be any flavour they like. As they chew, the flavour changes to anything the pupil wishes: chocolate, ice cream, popcorn etc. Have some fun with made-up horrible flavours! Make appropriate noises to match the flavour. The gum also gets bigger and bigger until it bursts out of the mouth.

'Chocolate Cake Story'. Imagine mum has left a piece of freshly made chocolate cake on the kitchen table and has gone out.

Mime dipping a finger into the filling, then running your finger across the top and finally stuffing the whole slice into the mouth. Again, make appropriate noises.

## Video 3: Vocal Warm-ups

Vocal warm-ups are important to help the voice stay healthy and avoid damaging the vocal folds. They should be playful and creative and draw on the interests of the pupils. This video shows you how to teach the 'follow my finger' exercise. There are many other ways you can use the voice to create abstract sounds: make up stories and use the voice creatively to make sound effects.

# **Video 4: Warming Up with Pitch**

Formal hand signals are used in many different musical traditions as a way of teaching pitch. This video shows you less formal techniques which will help pupils to recognise high and low sounds and to follow a vocal leader.

## Video 5: Teaching a Song

Here is an example of a song being taught. It is 'Mangwene Mpulele' from Lesotho in southern Africa. The language is Bantu.

Note that actions are an integral part of the process; children learn words and music so much more easily if they have corresponding actions to perform. The teacher tells them the story of the song and the actions arise from the meaning of the words. The story also fires the imagination and adds to the pupils' enjoyment.

If you are not yet confident enough to sing with your pupils it is perfectly possible to use audio to do the singing and you can tell them the story and show them the actions.

Spend some time thinking of where the song could be used in your teaching.

It could be part of a Geography project about southern Africa, a lesson about rainfall, a language lesson teaching vocabulary about the weather – you will think of many more ways of using it.

As explained in the video, the song is about a child being caught in the rain and begging Aunty to be let inside. You can hear a full version of the song here:

http://www.cantarmais.pt/pt/cancoes/mun do/cancao/mangwene-mpulele

The words of the song are written here and the translation can be found on the video:

Mangwene mpulele kinel waki pula (ha mangwene). Mangwene mpulele kinel waki pula.

Le hale mula,
le hale mule,
kinel waki pula (ha mangwene).
Le hale mula,
le hale mule,
kinel waki pula.



The second song is 'Tzena Tzena'. This is a famous Israeli song, here sung in English – not Hebrew. It invites the listener to join a party in the city square. Here are the English words:

Tzena, Tzena, Tzena, Tzena,
Can't you hear the music playing
In the city square?
Tzena, Tzena, Tzena,
Can't you hear the music playing
In the city square?

Tzena, Tzena join the celebration,
There'll be people there from every nation!
Dawn will find us laughing in the sunlight,
They'll be people dancing there

Tzena, Tzena (repeat)

Again, there are many ways that you could use this song in the classroom. English vocabulary and sentence construction, story-telling (what is the celebration for?), drama, movement and dance, art and design (research Israeli formal dress), geography and history (Middle East), personal and social education (the importance of celebration, feeling good), celebrations around the world...

There are lots of teaching resources and songs from around the world you can use with your pupils available on the World Voice website. Find our more here:

https://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/classroom-resources/world-voice

Visit the World Voice Songbook here:

<a href="https://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/clas-sroom-resources/world-voice/world-songbook">https://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/clas-sroom-resources/world-voice/world-songbook</a>

