

Greeting and Circle Time (Activities 1-1 to 1-2)

Activity 1-2

Circle Time¹

Objectives

- Initiate Activities for the day or during transitions.

What you need

- Marked instrument for teacher and optional marked instruments for students
- Easel or board to record vocabulary words and new words from Reflections

Notes to Leader

- Use a slow Beat Rhythm at first, adjusting it to the children's capabilities. Go as slowly as necessary to keep the rhythm smooth and even.
- Introduce faster Beat Rhythm as the children become ready for it.
- Encourage the children: they are learning new skills.

Vocabulary

- Review: melody, pitch (See *Appendix B* for a Glossary of Terms)

Leader Directions

1. Play the melody for *Request to Form a Circle* in rhythm, using a free hand to tap the beats.

Beat Rhythm	B	B	B	B
Play Melody	5 - 5	3 - 3	5	3

2. Sing (or speak), playing as needed. Repeat until a circle has been formed.

Beat Rhythm	B	B	B	B
Sing words	Please stand	in a	cir-	-cle.
Sing melody	5 - 5	3 - 3	5	3

¹ This activity is adapted from Kodaly music singing training. References to Kodaly training include L. Chosky, *The Kodaly Concept: Creating an Environment for Musical Learning* (Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs: 1981) and M. Houlahan & P. Taka, *Kodaly Today: A Cognitive Approach* (Oxford, New York: 2008).

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3. When the circle is formed, sing or speak (playing as needed) ***Request to Walk in a Circle*** and repeat as walking continues. Children should step at the Beat Rhythm.

Beat Rhythm	B	B	B	B
Sing words	Please walk	in a	cir-	-cle.
Sing melody	5 - 5	3 - 3	5	3

4. Play melody for ***Request to Hop in Place***. Begin this new melody without warning and then sing or speak (playing as needed), repeating as hopping continues. Children should hop at the Beat Rhythm as soon as new melody starts.

Beat Rhythm	B	B	B	B
Sing words	Please	hop	where you	are.
Sing melody	5	3	5 - 5	3

5. Sing or speak (playing as needed) ***Request to Sit in a Circle***. The children should respond as soon as they hear the change in the words and melody. Other children will follow the example of the first children to sit down. Continue singing until all are seated.

Beat Rhythm	B	B	B	B
Sing words	Please sit	in a	cir-	-cle
Sing melody	5 - 5	3 - 3	5	3

6. Next play the melody for the ***Children's Response***. Remind them of the response words "we are ready". Encourage them to sing together.
7. Children sing the response. Play as needed and stop playing as soon as possible.

Beat Rhythm	B	B	B	B
Sing words	We	are	rea-	-dy
Sing melody	5	3	5	3

8. Explain to the children that they will ***greet each other in pairs***.
9. Sing the melody (playing as needed) and substitute the child's name after "Hello". After modeling this with one child, invite that child to greet a child next to him or her (playing as needed).

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Beat Rhythm	B	B	B	B
Sing words	Hel-	-lo,	Ma-	-ry.
Sing melody	5	3	5	3

10. Continue around the circle until everyone who wishes to greet the child next to him or her has had a turn.

