

My Sing-Along Songs

Lesson Plans: Concepts of Print, Language Arts, Music & Technology

Materials:

Book – I’ve Been Working on the Railroad with accompanying CD

Small plastic toy trains or any other manipulative. One for each student

FlipGrid – online tool available at <http://flipgrid.com/info/>

Color crayons – enough for each student to color

Construction paper or drawing paper

Objectives:

- Students will explore conventions of left to right word order.
- Students will follow the words to read and sing-along making a FlipGrid video.
- Students will share their video with classrooms around the town, state or world.
- Students will respond to videos verbally and in writing.

Pre-Reading: Ask students how they got to school today? A bus? A car? Walk? Are there any other ways to travel – make a fun list. Did anyone come up with a train? Tell students that today you are going to read and sing along to a book about a train.

Engagement: Share the book **I’ve Been Working on the Railroad** with the accompanying CD. Ask children to LISTEN and LOOK carefully – which way do they move (or do their eyes move) when they read and sing the words on the page.

Activity:

1. Ask Students – which way their eyes have to move when they were reading and singing along with the book. Point to some of the words and discuss the left to right direction when reading.
2. Play the song and book again – this time – ask students to put their right arm straight in front of them and move to the beat of the music pointing to each word. When they get to the end of the line – they should go back to the beginning and start moving left to right again.
3. Give each student a toy train car, or a manipulative of some kind. Play the song again and this time ask students to put the train car on the far left of their right arm (this will be their hand) and move it to the right with every word and line of the song. Back to the left at the beginning of each line and down their arm again as the song plays.
4. Go to <http://flipgrid.com>. Using FlipGrid, make a tape of student groups singing along to the song and moving their arms with the words in the left to right direction.
5. Invite other classrooms to do the same.
6. Encourage students to view and respond to other classrooms reading and singing along to the same book verbally as a class and in writing right on the FlipGrid Website.

Transition: Create a Choo-Choo train as a class lining up and ‘chugging’ from left to right as the song plays and you all sing along. Upload another FlipGrid video of this and encourage other classrooms to come up with a fun way to move like a train to the song – left to right.

Closure: Invite each student in the class to create their own train car with color crayons and construction paper. Draw names to choose someone to create the engine and someone else to create the caboose. Tape the cars around the room or in the hall with the words to I’ve Been Working on the Railroad above the cars... moving left to right of course!



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