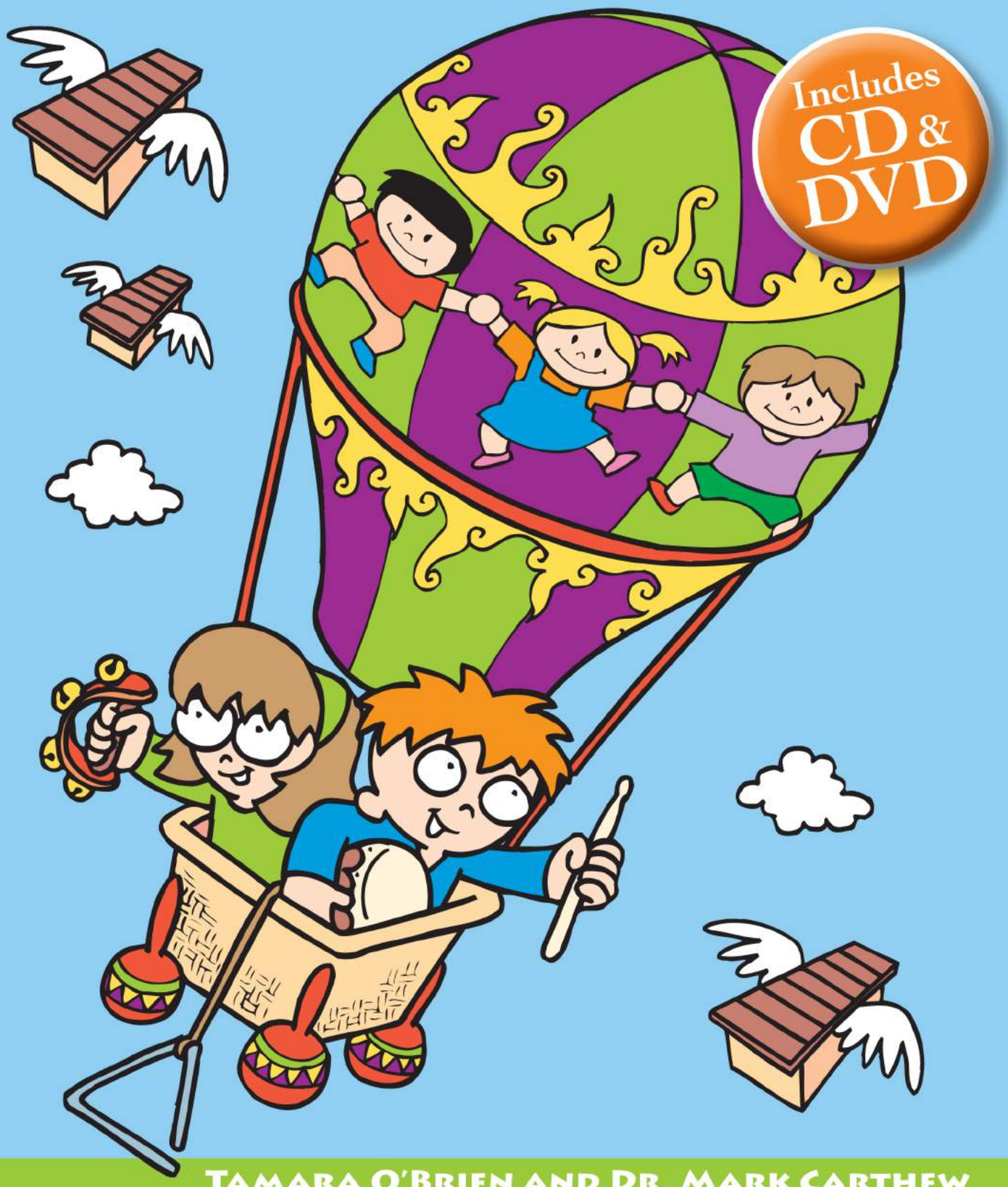
WE'RE ORFF!

5 easy Orff-based units for beginning-lower primary



TAMARA O'BRIEN AND DR. MARK CARTHEW

Bushfire Press Pty Ltd

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Foreword

Creating music and music education activities that are appealing to the young, and the very young, can be a challenging undertaking. Tamara O'Brien and Mark Carthew have found an answer to this challenge and created a well-rounded publication, which offers a healthy oeuvre of songs, ideas and activities.

Speech, rhyming, singing, dance movement, percussion, visual clues and all the advantages of modern technology make this an accessible publication full of good ideas.

In a playful and child-centred approach, Tamara and Mark lead us to a world of musical imagination. The teaching–learning processes which are offered here follow the Orff way to music education. Children are involved through *imitation, exploration* and *creation*.

For those who have never worked with the Orff approach, the publication provides encouraging starting points. And for those who know about the Orff way to music education, there are plenty of ideas, and pedagogical signposts.

We're Orff takes children and educators into a world full of fun, imagination, moving about and sounding out – and all of it with a sense of ease.

Christoph Maubach
July 2012

How does *We're Orff!* work?

The units

In this resource there are 5 different units, suitable for preschool to lower primary classes. Each unit is it's own entity and develops in its own way, in a step-by-step progression, but each unit follows the same Orff-Shulwerk Principles.

Each unit will take several weeks to work through. Progress at a pace that the class is comfortable with.

The activities

Each unit will work through a standard set of activities, in an order appropriate to its text. The activities will vary but will be drawn from the following:

Movement, *Body percussion*, *Speech*, *Singing*, *Instruments*

Instrument work will utilise both untuned and tuned percussion and involve *Rhythm*, *Melody, Ostinato*, *Bordun* and/or *Canon*.

Each unit concludes with suggestions for drawing on the exploration and creative work done by the students to create a performance (*Putting it Together*).

The techniques

Within each of the activities, the following techniques are used:

Imitation, *Exploration*, *Improvisation/creating*

Activity icons

Movement

Body percussion

Speech

Singing

Instruments

Untuned percussion

Tuned percussion

Putting it Together

Technique icons

Imitation

Exploration

Improvisation/creating

Other icons

Springboard (*creative possibilities*)

Teacher-speak (*what the teacher says*)

Audio/video support

CD : TRACK 01 indicates accompanying CD demo/backing track

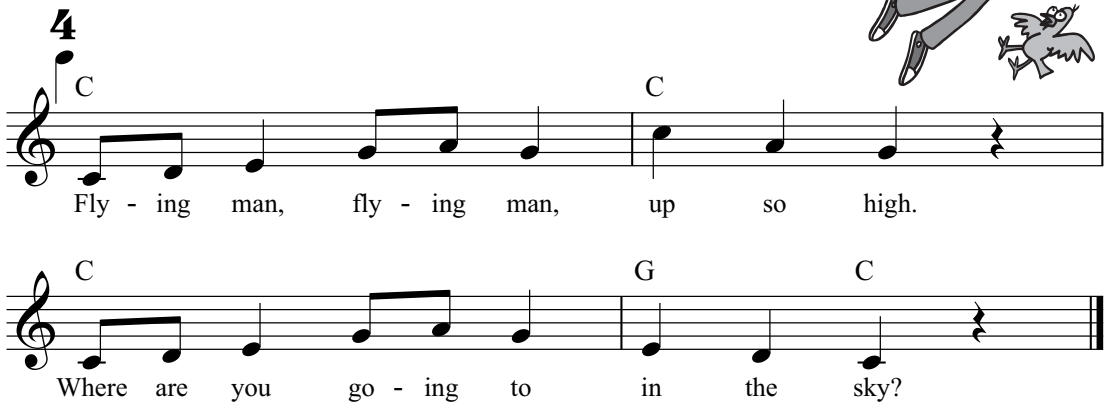
indicates accompanying DVD demonstration

FLYING MAN

CD : TRACK 01

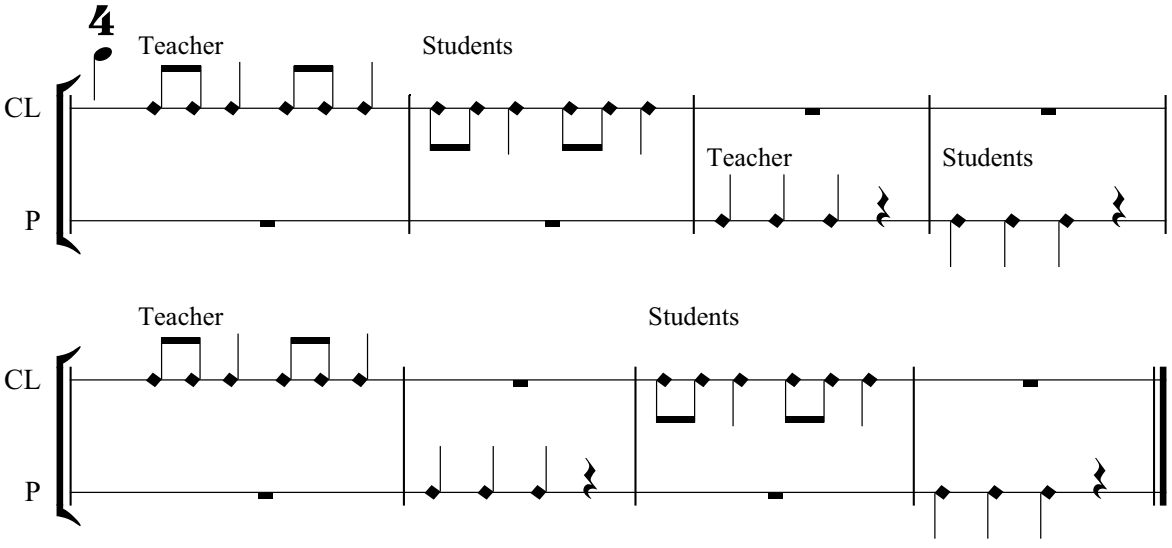
Flying Man

Words Trad. Arr. Mark Carthew
Music by Tamara O'Brien



BODY PERCUSSION

Imitation



NOTE: CL = clap; P = patchen (pat/tap knees)

Teacher claps the pattern; students echo.

NOTE: Make sure students get the pattern right before proceeding.

Different body parts can be used for different parts of the pattern.

Who can think of a different body part?

FLYING MAN

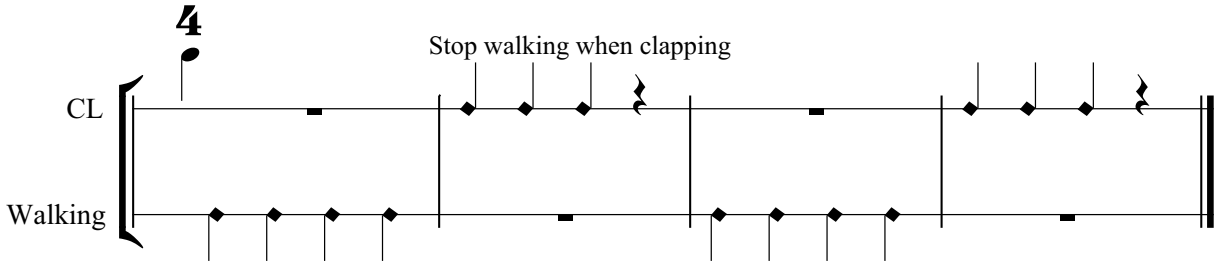
MOVEMENT

Beat keeping

The class walks to a beat given by the teacher on an untuned percussion instrument.

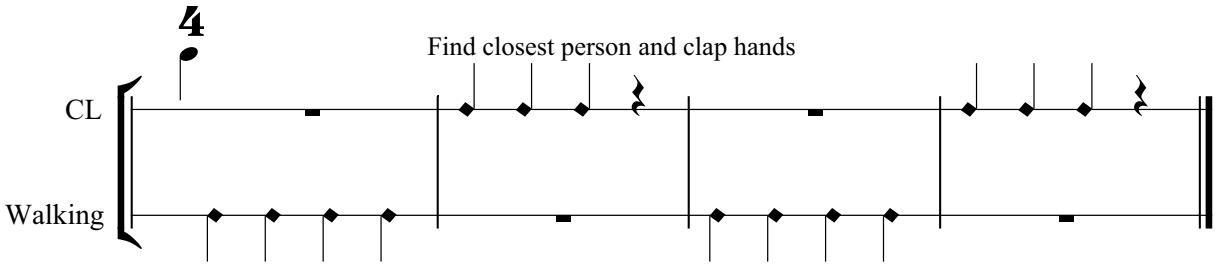
Imitation

When the class has mastered walking to the beat, introduce the pattern below. Students can either stop while they clap or walk and clap at the same time.



NOTE: An example can be seen in the DVD selection
Flying Man: walking to the beat

Exploration



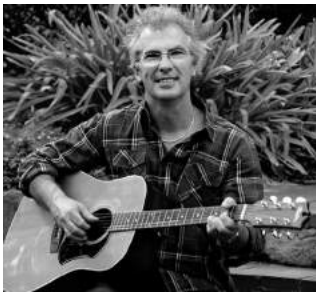
Students walk to the beat and in the *clapping* section, clap hands with the closest person.

If there is no-one close, clap the air or clap own hands again.

NOTE: An example can be seen in the DVD selection
Flying Man: walking to the beat

Tamara O'Brien

Tamara is an award-winning composer for the screen as well as a talented and engaging educator. She has won a string of notable awards for her writing and has conducted and recorded in world class facilities in Sydney and LA. She gives lectures in both Film Music and activities in the Orff approach. Tamara currently runs her own Early Childhood Music classes as well as teaches at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music Open Academy with children 3-10yrs, and runs adult classes in Scoring for the Screen. She writes music for a variety of projects ranging from documentaries to animations and online game trailers.
www.tamaraobrien.com
www.musicforchildren.com.au



Dr Mark Carthew

Mark is an award winning Australian author and educator well known for his books and series exploring wordplay, music, movement and drama, with his illustrated play-script series *VoiceWorks* having sold over a million copies worldwide. Mark's latest releases include *Newts, Lutes and Bandicoots*, *Wicked Wizards & Leaping Lizards* and *Witches' Britches, Itches & Twitches!* Mark's picture books include *Five Little Owls* and *The Gobbling Tree*, winner of Speech Pathology Australia's Book of the Year 2009. His anthology with music CD *Can You Keep a Secret? Timeless rhymes to share and treasure* was noted by the Children's Book Council of Australia as a Notable Book, Early Childhood. Mark is currently a Lecturer and the Program Coordinator Primary Education at Swinburne University of Technology.
www.markcarthew.com.au

CD TRACKLIST

FLYING MAN

1. Flying Man – *song*
2. Flying Man – *instruments: exploration*
3. Flying Man – *speech: imitation*
4. Flying Man – *tuned Percussion: imitation #1*
5. Flying Man – *tuned Percussion: imitation #2*
6. Flying Man – *tuned Percussion: imitation #3*
7. Flying Man – *tuned Percussion: bass part*
8. Flying Man – *performance*

FIDDLE DIDDLE DEE

9. Fiddle Diddle Dee – *song*
10. Fiddle Diddle Dee – *speech: imitation*
11. Fiddle Diddle Dee – *dance*
12. Fiddle Diddle Dee – *bass part*
13. Fiddle Diddle Dee – *performance*

TERRACOTTA POT

14. Terracotta Pot – *chant*
15. Terracotta Pot – *speech: imitation*
16. Terracotta Pot – *canon*
17. Terracotta Pot – *body percussion*
18. Terracotta Pot – *untuned percussion*
19. Terracotta Pot – *pot composition*
20. Terracotta Pot – *performance*

LITTLE BROWN OWL

21. Little Brown Owl – *song*
22. Little Brown Owl – *speech: imitation*
23. Little Brown Owl – *singing: imitation*
24. Little Brown Owl – *backing*
25. Little Brown Owl – *bass part*
26. Little Brown Owl – *performance*

DINOSAUR

27. Dinosaur – *song*
28. Dinosaur – *backing*
29. Dinosaur – *bass ostinato*
30. Dinosaur – *performance arrangement*

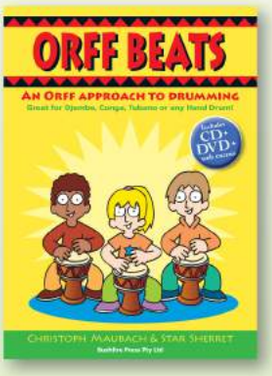
5 easy Orff-based units for beginning-lower primary

- Clearly set out, easy to follow steps – a recipe for success.
- Activities supported by CD tracks & filmed demonstrations.
- Little to no set-up time required.
- Each unit steps the teacher and students through an Orff-based approach to exploring music.

LESSON PLANS + DVD WORKSHOP + CD!

A resource for beginning teacher to experienced Orff practitioner

Utilising speech, rhyme, rhythm, body percussion, movement, melody, tuned and untuned percussion … and lots of exploration and improvisation … the delightful rhymes & songs and the infectious activities lead to joyful performance.

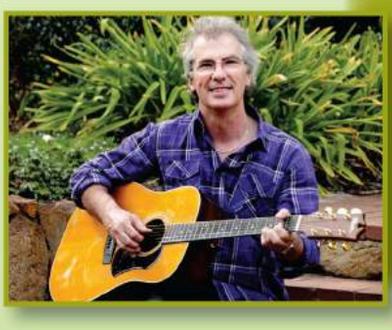


Orff Beats

by Christoph Maubach and Star Sherret
Another great Orff resource

Tamara O'Brien

Tamara O'Brien is an award-winning screen composer as well as a talented and engaging educator. She lectures in both Film Music and activities in the Orff approach, whilst running her own Early Childhood Music classes and teaching at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music's 3–10yrs program.



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ISBN 978-1-876772-81-9

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