

# All Are Welcome



## Start the School Year with a Song.

*Suggested Grades: K-6*

Kristin Berger

### National Core Arts Standards

- #1 Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
- #2 Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

#### Objectives

- Sing melody to accompany a children's book.
- Decode a melody on instruments.
- Review classroom procedures for instruments.

#### Materials

Book: All are Welcome by Alexandra Penfold



#### KRISTIN BERGER

Kristin is a general music teacher in Ann Arbor, MI. She has been teaching for ten years in both elementary and high school schools. She has completed her Orff-Schulwerk training and loves designing differentiated lessons using Orff instruments.

### Overview:

The book **All Are Welcome**, written by Alexandra Penfold and illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman, is a gorgeous piece of children's literature that belongs in all music classrooms. It showcases a student's day in their school: visiting the gymnasium, cafeteria, classroom, and even music classroom, which not many school-themed books do! I used this book as my first-day lesson for all of my students in my school, which has students in PreK through fifth grade. I did not get sick of singing the book at all, and my students enjoyed the extension activities!

### Suggested Teaching Process:

## All Are Welcome Here

book by Alexandra Penfold

illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman

Kristin Berger

No Pen - cils sharp - ened in their case, Bells are ring - ing, let's make haste.  
What you we - ar when you play.  
In our class - room safe and sound, Fears are lost and hope is found.

School's be - gin - ning, dreams to chase All are wel - come here. You have a place here. You  
If you come from far a - way All are wel - come here.  
Raise your hand, we'll go a - round All are wel - come here.

have a space here. All are wel - come here.



## Preschool & Kindergarten

### Day One:

- Sing the book to the students.
- Encourage students to sing along with the phrase *All Are Welcome Here*.
- Sing traditional name game or welcome song from your repertoire.

### Day Two:

- Sitting in a Circle, sing the book with the students.
- Transfer the rhythm *All Are Welcome Here* to hand drums.
- Spread out the drums so every over student has an instrument.
- Pass the drums to the right after every repetition of the words *All Are Welcome Here*.
- Students pass the drum after the word *Here*.
- Explore the best processes for obtaining, holding, playing, and returning the instruments in the music classroom.
- This is a skill set that we use throughout the school year.

## First & Second Grades

### Day One

- Same Lesson as Preschool & Kindergarten

### Day Two

- Teach or review procedure for retrieving Boomwhackers™, rest position, and proper playing technique.
- Divide students into groups of three.
- Give each group a light green, yellow, red, and orange Boomwhacker™.
- Students collaborate to decode the melodic phrase *All Are Welcome Here*.
- Once they have figured out the melody each group plays for the class.
- Then the entire class practices playing the phrase together.
- Reread the book while students play the phrase *All Are Welcome Here* together on their Boomwhackers™.

## Third – Fifth Grades

Third, fourth, and fifth graders use the same melody to review their xylophone skills.

- Sing the book to the students.
- Third grade students worked in pairs to decode the melodic phrase *All Are Welcome Here*.
- The fourth and fifth graders worked in pairs and tasked with decoding the entire melody.

*Since so many of our students were not in the music classroom during COVID, this was a really big challenge for most of my students! It was great to see the students working together to solve the puzzle.*



- When students are secure in playing the melody, teach the other barred instrument parts.
- Sing the book with all of the accompanying parts.

### **Final Thoughts**

Ms. Penfold and Ms. Kaufman have created my very favorite first-day-of-school book, hands down. The vibrant colors, inclusive wording, representative body shapes and relationship types, rhyme scheme, and so much more instantly brought the melody into my head as I read their book. I look forward to using this outline and adapting it for my classroom for many years to come!

# All Are Welcome Here

book by Alexandra Penfold

illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman



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4/4

No Pen - cils sharp - ened in their case, Bells are ring - ing, let's make haste.  
mat - ter how you start your day, What are you we - ar when you play.  
In our class - room safe and sound, Fears are lost and hope is found.

Glock.

Xylo.

BX

School's be - gin - ning, dreams to chase All are wel - come here. You  
If you come from far go a - way All are wel - come here.  
Raise your hand, we'll go a - round All are wel - come here.

Glk.

Xyl.

BX

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Final

have a place here. You have a space here. All are

Glk.

Xyl.

BX

Final

wel - come here.

Glk.

Xyl.

BX