

Beginning a Dynamic Recorder Program

Presented by Jim Tinter (jimtinter@gmail.com)

- I. Musical People - TBA - Tuneful, Beatful, Artful (may or may not be literate). Sound BEFORE symbol!
- II. **Flea trainers** place limits and restrict opportunities. **Fleaberators** take the lid off the jar and liberate the fleas!
- III. Planning the program
 - A. Purchase vs loan
 - B. Unit vs spiral curriculum
 - C. What grade to start?
 - D. Contact minutes
 - E. To take home or not
 - F. Classroom management issues
 1. Forgetters, loaners, testing/grading, motivation, inclusion, sanitation.
- IV. Recorder basics
 - A. Instrument, sound, articulation, posture
 1. Use the best recorder possible; play the same make and model; take instruments home to practice; use English (Baroque) fingering, not German; left hand on top; use a neck strap.
 2. Introduce right hand ASAP. "Walk down to the bottom of the Grand Canyon."
 3. Learn to *play* first, then read notation later.
 4. ALWAYS insist on a warm, dark sound. 1) warm, slow, Hawaiian air, 2) mouthpiece on dry part of lip, 3) no teeth touching, 4) open throat (big egg in the mouth feeling).
 5. Articulation — doo or dah for legato, dut and duh for staccato. Don't use tah or too - too harsh.
 6. Hand position — Cover holes with finger prints, not finger tips. Wiggle and squeeze to eliminate squeaks.
 - B. The fantastic first lesson
 1. Kids leave knowing hand position, sound production, "Hot Cross Buns," "Merrily We Roll Along," and begin walking down the instrument to low C.
 - C. Learn "Hot Cross Buns" and "Merrily We Roll Along" in other keys: C, F.
- V. Simple songs
 - A. Play tunes requiring long, legato phrases.
 1. "Hot Cross Buns" — legato melody from *Big Mouth Blues* (B, A, G).
 2. "Merrily We Roll Along."
 3. "Desert Rider" — from *Big Mouth Blues* (B, A, G, E). Four measure phrases.
 4. "A Minor Melody" from *A Minor Melody* (B, A, G, C') - Four measure phrases.
 - B. Learning staccato
 1. "Hot Cross/Merrily Mambo" — from *B-A-G Bossa Nova*

References and Suggested Resources

Recorder, jazz, choral, movement, and Boomwhacker materials by Jim Tinter:

A Minor Melody
B-A-G Bossa Nova
Big Mouth Blues
Dinosaur Rap and Rondo
Jingle Bells in 10 Flavors
VFX

recorderman.com

Wollitz, Kenneth. (1992) *The Recorder Book*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. ISBN 0-394-74999-5

The American Recorder Society (americanrecorder.org)

Suzuki, Schniki. *Nurtured by Love*.

This session partially sponsored by:



Hot Cross Buns

Part 1

Musical notation for Part 1 of 'Hot Cross Buns'. It consists of two staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff contains measures 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. The second staff contains measures 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14. A 'Coda' symbol is placed above measure 13. The dynamic marking *mf* is placed below measure 5.

Hot Cross Buns

Part 2

Musical notation for Part 2 of 'Hot Cross Buns'. It consists of two staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff contains measures 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. The second staff contains measures 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14. A 'Coda' symbol is placed above measure 13. The dynamic marking *mf* is placed below measure 5.

Hot Cross/Merrily Mambo

Part 1

$\text{♩} = 132$ *Very staccato* Traditional melodies
Arr. by Jim Tinter

Musical notation for 'Hot Cross/Merrily Mambo' with lyrics. It consists of four staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff contains measures 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. The second staff contains measures 9-11, 12, 13, 14, and 15. The third staff contains measures 16, 17, 18, and 19. The fourth staff contains measures 20, 21, and 22. The dynamic marking *mf* is placed below measure 5, and *f* is placed below measure 12. The lyrics are:
 Hot cross buns hot cross buns one a pen ny two a pen ny hot cross buns.
 Mi re do mi re do do do do do re re re re mi re do
 Mer - ri - ly we roll a - long, roll a - long, roll a - long.
 Mi re do re mi mi mi re re re mi mi mi
 Mer - ri - ly we roll a - long. O'er the deep blue sea.
 mi re do re mi mi mi re re mi re do
 O'er the deep blue sea.
 fa fa fa mi do