O•8 The Ballad of the Bedbugs and the Beetles

INSTRUMENTATION		
SX/SG	□ D E □ G A B □ D E □ G A	cowbell
SM/AM	□ D E □ G A B □ D E □ G A	
BX/BM	□ □ □ □ G □ □ □ D □ □ G □	

FORM

Introduction:	First four measures tutti instruments
Song:	Voices with *tutti* instruments
Interlude:	Question and answer phrases
Song:	Voices with *tutti* instruments
Coda:	Question and answer phrases

NOTEWORTHY

Form:	question/answer phrases
Rhythm:	𝅗𝅥, ♩, ♫, 𝄽
Melody:	pentatonic: *so*| *la*| *do re mi so*
Harmony:	crossover bordun

TEACHING THE ORCHESTRATION

1. Teach the bass xylophone/ bass metallophone part.

Have students:

- Pat the rhythm of the BX/BM part. Pat the left hand on the left thigh, the right hand on the right thigh and then cross the left hand over to touch the right shoulder. Then reverse to finish the crossover bordun pattern.
- Take turns playing the crossover G bordun pattern on any available barred instruments while singing the song.

2. Teach the cowbell part.

Have students:

- Clap the rhythm of the cowbell part as a two-measure ostinato.
- Take turns playing the cowbell and BX/BM parts as they sing the song.

3. Teach the soprano glockenspiel/soprano xylophone and soprano and alto metallophone parts.

Have students:

- Pat half-notes with both hands on knees, then hips, then shoulders and then snap the rhythm pattern (right-left-right) to complete the ostinato pattern. A text may be helpful: *Foul ball, jump out-of-bed!*
- Transfer the patting to any two pitches from the pentatonic scale in an ascending line on the SM/AM. Transfer the snaps to any two pitches from the pentatonic scale on the SG/SX.
- Take turns playing the instrumental parts while singing the song.

4. Create culminating performance.

Have students:

- Experiment with different combinations of instruments and singing.
- Decide what combinations to use in the final performance. Perform the song with any instrumental parts.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CREATIVITY

Have students:

- Identify the phrase length of the ostinato parts. (four measures)
- Improvise question/answer phrases. The question should end on any pitch but G, and the answer must end on G. Use the improvisations as an interlude and coda or decide on another use within the song. (See Form above.)

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