

O•3 Uncle Pen

INSTRUMENTATION						
SG	□	□	□	□	G □ □ □ D E □ G □	hanging cymbal or washboard, bass drum (or low hand drum), optional vibra slap
AG	□	□	□	□	G □ □ □ □ □ □ G □	
AM	C	□	□	□	G □ B C □ □ □ G □	
AX	□	D	E	□	□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □	
BX	□	D	□	□	G □ □ □ D □ □ □ □	

FORM

Introduction:	As written
Song:	Voices with <i>tutti</i> instruments (verse-refrain)
Interludes:	Improvisation on washboard, cymbals, spoons, or other unpitched instruments

NOTEWORTHY

Rhythm:	whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes and rests
Form:	verse/refrain

TEACHING THE ORCHESTRATION

1. Teach the bass xylophone part.

Have students:

- Watch you pat the BX part as they sing the song. (Your right hand will move to show the two lower pitches.)
- Notice the rest in measure 7 of the verse (*knew Uncle Pen was*), the single sound on beat 1 in the measure that follows, how the part resumes for five beats on the next two measures. (They should also recognize that the end of the refrain is similar to the last part of the verse.)
- Sing the verse again, this time mirroring you in patting the part. The right hand stays in one place, the left hand moves different places representing the two lower pitches.
- Transfer the pattern to low D and G and high D on the BX.
- Sing the verse with the BX accompaniment.
- Practice the last six measures of the BX accompaniment at the end of the refrain.
- Sing the entire song with the BX accompaniment.

2. Teach bass drum, cymbal (or washboard) and optional vibra slap parts.

Have students:

- Form two groups and sing the song, one group clapping the left hand rhythm of the BX (beats 1 and 3, except on measures 7–8 of verse) and the other clapping the right hand rhythm (beats 2 and 4, except on measures 7–8 of verse).
- Transfer beats 1 and 3 to bass drum and beats 2 and 4 to hanging cymbal or washboard.
- Add one sound on the vibra slap (optional) on beat 3 (last measure of verse and refrain).
- Sing the first verse with the accompaniment.
- Sing the entire song with the accompaniment learned so far.

3. Teach the alto xylophone part.

Have students:

- Pat the part with left hand for lower note and right hand for higher note.
- Sing the part with letter names.
- Transfer the part to AX.
- Sing the song with the accompaniment learned so far.

4. Teach the soprano glockenspiel, alto glockenspiel, and alto metallophone parts for the first four measures of the refrain.

Have students:

- Sing the refrain, patting on beat 1 in the first four measures and beat 3 of the last measure.
- Transfer the rhythm to pitches shown in the score for each instrument.
- Sing the first part of the refrain with the accompaniment.

5. Sing the entire song with the accompaniment.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CREATIVITY

Have students:

- Take turns improvising combinations of quarter notes and eighth notes on washboard or cymbals (or other unpitched instruments of their choice) for 16 beats after each refrain. Solos on spoons would also be appropriate here. (See Form above.)