

The Song Tree

The Dragon and the Phoenix

Spring 2007



bbc.co.uk/schoolradio

A series provided by the BBC at the request of the Educational Broadcasting Council for the United Kingdom

Age: 5-7

These programmes are available to order (for UK schools only) on pre-recorded CDs from:

BBC Schools' Broadcast Recordings

Tel: 08701 272 272 Monday to Friday 0800 to 1800

Or visit www.bbc.co.uk/schoolradio/howtoorder.shtml for more information

Audio on demand. These programmes are also available as audio on demand from the School Radio website for 7 days following the original date of transmission. Refer to programme titles below to find out when programmes are available as audio on demand.

THE SONG TREE

The Dragon and the Phoenix

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Story lines: Tim Whitnall
Presenters: Kuei-Lin Hsu and Tessa Niles

A series of programmes based on a traditional Chinese tale.

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Introduction to the series:

The ten programmes in The Song Tree *The Dragon and the Phoenix* can be put together to make a musical story. It is our own retelling of the magical traditional Chinese legend.

Each programme includes:

- A clear music objective connected the music curriculum
- A carefully taught section of a new song to sing
- Basic music skills and concepts
- Builds on the material from the previous programme
- The story semi dramatised with music and sound effects
- An optional resource unit offering related listening music from the Chinese tradition, percussion suggestions and music games

Curriculum links:

The Dragon and the Phoenix provides material to link with the QCA schemes of work for music. In particular it links with:

- Unit one: On going skills
- Unit two: Sounds interesting – exploring sounds and sound sources

These notes:

These notes offer a short guide to the programmes only. Full Teacher's Notes and Classroom pack are available from BBC Active by phoning 0870 830 8000 or visiting:

www.bbc.schoolshop.com

The full Teacher's Notes and Classroom Pack contain simple piano versions of the songs, lyric sheets, the story, a guide to the education content of the programmes with teaching points and suggestions for classroom follow-up as well as cross curricular links. In addition there is a music CD containing all the songs and accompaniments.

These notes are not intended as a substitute for the full Teacher's Notes but will enable teachers wishing to use the programmes to plan ahead and ensure that the music and other curriculum objectives of the series can be realised.

Listening on CD:

Each programme is split into tracks. The track numbers are clearly indicated beside the programme content in these notes. The tracks will help you navigate around the programmes and mediate the material, for example to practise songs and play music games again.

Audio on demand:

The programmes are also available as audio on demand from the School Radio website for 7 days following transmission (check the contents table above for dates).

The audio on demand is a reliable service – especially on broadband - that allows you to listen to the programme 'streamed' over the internet. This means that you can play the programme to your class either:

- direct from a computer
- from a hi-fi or audio system by connecting the output of the computer into a suitable input on the amplifier (which offers enhanced sound quality)
- by connecting the computer to an interactive white-board

To listen to the audio files you will need to have installed 'Realplayer' on your computer. This commonly-used software is easy to download from the internet if you do not already have it. There are instructions on how to do so at the School Radio website:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schoolradio/help.shtml>

Using the audio on demand service is just as flexible as using a CD of the programmes. You are able to pause the programme whenever you wish and also scroll forwards and backwards through a programme to locate other sections or to listen to sections again.

The track numbers in these notes refer to the tracks on the CDs of the programmes.

At-a-glance Planning Chart

Prog	Title	Main Song	Main Music Focus
1	The Dragon and the Phoenix become friends	Fairy Island	rhythm awareness
2	The Dragon and the Phoenix discover the pebble	Pebble into a pearl	Exploring how sounds are made; Phrasing; fast and slow
3	The Dragon and the Phoenix meet a crab	The secret of the stone	Recognising sound qualities
4	The Empress of the West plans to steal the pearl	Sneaky guard	High and low sounds
5	The pearl is stolen	No time to lose	Using voice in different ways [whispering, speaking, shouting, expression etc.]
6	The empress receives her pearl	Nine doors	Breathing and posture
7	The Dragon and the Phoenix find the pearl	Our lucky day	Loud and quiet
8	The Dragon and the Phoenix retrieve the pearl	Friends forever	How sounds can be changed
9	Rehearsal		Good singing technique
10	Performance	All	Performance and meaning

1: The Dragon and the Phoenix become friends

Music objective: rhythm awareness

Useful images:

Chinese dragons:

www.draconian.com/dragons/Images/Chinese%20Dragons/Chinese-Dragon-Green-25-large.jpg

www.draconian.com/dragons/Images/Chinese%20Dragons/Chinese-Dragon-Green-23-large.jpg

www.flickr.com/photo_zoom.gne?id=237646190&size=o

static.flickr.com/30/50655746_8bd0106575_o.jpg

A golden phoenix:

http://static.flickr.com/56/193922943_a50e1ecbb3.jpg

Preparation:

Look at a picture of a green dragon and a golden phoenix and talk about these mythical creatures. What do they look like? How do the children think they move?

Content:

CD1	Content	Teacher guidance
Tr 1	Learning the chorus of Fairy Island	Emphasise that they need to listen FIRST before singing
Tr 2	The first part of the story	
Tr 3	Learning verse one of Fairy Island	Swaying with the new words and listening to the new words; drop lower jaw to help sing the high notes
Tr 4	Putting verse one and chorus together	
Tr 5	Chinese Wedding music	Tapping with the beat; you could add simple percussion
Tr 6	'Festival of Lanterns' by John Leach	Listen first then sway with the high tune

2: The Dragon and the Dragon and the Phoenix discover the pebble

Music objective: Exploring how sounds are made; fast and slow

Useful images:

Fairy Island

static.flickr.com/59/222328700_14e916ea04_o.jpg

Preparation:

Look at pictures of some islands. Do the children think that is what Fairy Island looks like? Begin to build your own class picture of Fairy Island using images from the song.

Content:

CD1	Content	Teacher guidance
Tr 7	Fairy Island verse one	Singing the chorus first then joining in with the rest of the song
Tr 8	Pebble into a pearl learning verse one	Encourage the children to listen first; learning one phrase at a time
Tr 9	Part two of the story	
Tr 10	Learning the chorus	Counting the phrases
Tr 11	Singing verse one and chorus	See if they can manage long smooth breaths and sing through the phrases
	Resource section	
Tr 12	Explaining the game	
Tr 13	Spot the tune	Some phrases to recognise
Tr 14	Listening music: 'Princess's Dance' by John Leach	Listening for the changes from slow to quick and putting your hand up on the change; listen again for different sound qualities

3: The Dragon and Phoenix meet a crab

Music objective: Recognising different sound qualities

Preparation:

Look at the words of the new song 'The secret of the stone'

Content:

CD1	Content	Teacher guidance
15	Pebble into a pearl chorus only	Sing just the chorus as we start
16	Learning chorus of 'The secret of the stone'	Joining in with 'pretty phoenix' and 'handsome dragon'
17	The third part of the story	
18	Learning verse one	Sharing secrets – whispering when you sing
19	Verse one and chorus	
20	Listening game	
21	Learning verse two	
22	Singing the whole song	
	Resource unit	
23	How is this being played?	Wire brush swish for the dragon Chinese gong for the phoenix Scuttling woodblock or claves for the crab
24	Listening music: 'Song of the Dragon and the Phoenix' by Fuquan Zhang	This music is also the tune played for the story

4: The Empress of the west plans to steal the pearl

Music objective: High and low sounds

Preparation: Look at a selection of classroom instruments (or objects that can be used to make a sound like an empty box or tin played with a pencil; a pot with something inside that rattles; a tube you can blow across). Which sounds are high and which sounds are low? Encourage the children to point high in the air for high sounds and low down near the ground for low sounds.

Content:

CD1	Content	Teacher guidance
25	'The secret of the stone' verse one and chorus	Sing the first verse and chorus as we start
26	The story part four	
27	Learning 'Sneaky guard' verse one	More jumps to watch out for; encourage accuracy by listening first and practising
28	Singing the musical jumps	Encourage the children to do the hand moves too; watch they don't slide between the notes
29	Learning 'Sneaky guard' middle section	Practise 'back empty handed'
30	Singing verse one and middle section	
31	Learning 'Sneaky guard' verse two	
	Resource unit	
32	Musical jumps	Each example is repeated twice
33	Moving to the musical jumps	Encourage them to move up or down with the jumps
34	Listening music: 'Son of the sea' by John Leach	Listening for the jumps in the music

5: The Pearl is stolen

Music objective: Different ways of using the voice

Preparation: Talk about the ways we use our voice. How many different ways can the children use their voices? There are some unusual examples at the end of the programme.

Content:

CD2	Content	Teacher guidance
1	Singing 'Sneaky guard' and learning the chorus of 'No time to lose'	Starting with singing the 'Sneaky guard' song; clapping and saying the phrases of the chorus of the new song
2	Singing 'No time to lose' chorus	Singing along with the accompaniment
3	The story part five	
4	Singing the chorus for 'No time to lose' and hearing the verses	Looking at the patterns in the verse
5	Singing verse one of 'No time to lose'	
6	Learning the middle eight of 'No time to lose'	Singing very quietly
7	Singing chorus / verse / middle eight	
8	Learning verse two	
9	Putting the song together	Be careful to get it in the right order – it will take several practises!
	Resource unit	
10	Ways of singing the song	
11	Listening music: 'Eye of the noodle' by Langen, Jeczalik and Dudley	Exploring vocal textures

6: The Empress receives her pearl

Music objective: Breathing and posture

Images:

A Chinese garden

http://static.flickr.com/64/188834195_edbe0b36b3.jpg

http://static.flickr.com/28/50334218_8f85e8292a_o.jpg

www.sydney-australien.de/fotos/syd_darling_harbour/DSC04466_1.jpg

Preparation:

Look at some pictures of Chinese gardens. How are they different to English gardens? Choose (or draw) a picture of a Chinese garden and choose a sound for each thing in the picture to help build a 'musical picture' of a Chinese garden

Content:

CD2	Content	Teacher guidance
12	'No time to lose' revision and performance	Start by singing the verse and chorus, then structuring the song
13	Story part six	
14	Learning verse one of 'Nine doors'	Listening to the phrases; watch out for the 'jumps' in the tune!
15	Learning verse two of 'Nine doors'	The tune is nearly the same
16	Singing the whole song	
	Resource unit	
17	Learning about phrasing	Spotting the breaths
18	Listening music: 'Love birds' by John Leach	Describing the sounds in the tune and the accompaniment

7: The Dragon and the Phoenix find the pearl

Music objective: Loud and quiet sounds

Preparation:

Using a selection of classroom instruments explore loud and quiet sounds. How can you make some instruments play loudly or quietly?

Content:

CD2	Content	Teacher guidance
19	'Nine doors' whole song	Starting the programme with the song
20	Learning the chorus of 'Our lucky day'	Listening twice first
21	Learning the first verse of 'Our lucky day'	Looking at the 'musical sentences'
22	Singing the first verse and chorus of 'Our lucky day'	Spotting the differences between the phrases
23	Part seven of the story	
24	Learning verse two and the chorus of 'Our lucky day'	How do you think we should sing the song?
25	Singing verses one and two and their choruses	Getting ready to perform – stand or sit with a nice straight back
	Resource unit	
26	Loud and quiet game	Stretch arms wide for loud music; hands close together for quiet music
27	Listening music: 'Duck's quarrel' by An Zhi-Shun	Listening for loud and quiet sounds

8: The Dragon and the Phoenix receive the pearl

Music objective: How sounds can be changed

Preparation:

Talk about 'musical changes' – how can you make sounds:

Loud or quiet

High or low

Slow or fast

Spiky or smooth?

See how many contrasts they can come up with.

Content:

CD3	Content	Teacher guidance
1	Singing 'Our lucky day' verse one and two with choruses	Start the programme with these two verses
2	Learning verse three	Spotting the different rhythms
3	Part eight of the story	
4	Learning verse one of 'Friends forever'	Learning the song phrase by phrase
5	Learning verse two of 'Friends forever'	
	Resource unit	
6	Musical changes	Three musical changes – what happened to each phrase
7	Listening music: 'Big gun shooting towards the sky' by Li Zhen-Gui	Which sounds would suit the Empress or the Dragon (a musical battle)?

9: Rehearsal

Music objective: Good singing techniques

Preparation:

Go through the words of all the songs especially look at the 'last' verses of the longer songs, so that the children are familiar with them

Content:

CD3	Content	Teacher guidance
8	'No time to lose' whole song	The programme begins with revision of this song
9	Learning verse two of 'Fairy Island'	
10	Learning 'Pebble into a pearl' verse two	Be careful with long phrases; plenty of big breaths are needed; 'staggered breathing'
11	Learning verse two of 'Sneaky guard'	Revising the first verse and chorus. Mind out for the big jumps. Listen to verse two before singing
12	Learning verse three of 'Our lucky day'	Spotting the differences
	Resource unit	
13	Chinese music groups	Metal; stone; skins; gourds; bamboo; wood; silk (strings) ; earth (pottery)
14	Listening music: 'A lion that has just woken' by Lui-Weng Chen arranged by Wei Zhao-Qun	Listen to the texture of the music and then decide how they are played

10: The Dragon and the Phoenix**Music objective:** Performance techniques**Preparation:**

Be ready to sing all of the songs

Content:

CD3	Content	Teacher guidance
15	The story begins	Listen to the story begin. The songs are sung all the way through
16	'Fairy Island'	
17	'Pebble into a pearl'	
18	'The secret of the stone'	
19	'Sneaky guard'	
20	'No time to lose'	
21	'Nine doors'	
22	'Our lucky day'	
23	'Friends forever'	