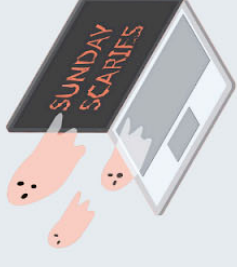




CHASE THOSE “SUNDAY SCARIES” AWAY



MUSIC LESSON PLAN:

Lesson Title: “The Leaves Are Falling – A Musical Celebration of Autumn”

Grade Level: K–2

Length: 30 minutes

Theme: Autumn / Fall Changes

Focus: Singing, steady beat, vocal exploration, movement, and music-literacy connection

OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this lesson:

1. Keep a steady beat with movement and instruments.
2. Match pitch using vocal exploration and singing voice.
3. Respond expressively to a story through music and movement.
4. Participate respectfully in a group circle game.

MATERIALS:

- Storybook: “Leaf Man” by Lois Ehlert (or substitute “Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf”)
- Small hand percussion instruments (rhythm sticks, shakers, drums, etc.)
- Scarves, ribbons, or fake leaves for movement
- Drum or tambourine (for beat cues)
- Circle formation space

“I CAN” STATEMENTS:

- I can keep a steady beat while moving and playing instruments.
- I can use my singing voice and explore high and low sounds.
- I can listen to a story and show what I hear through movement.
- I can work and play music with my classmates.

LESSON BREAKDOWN (30 Minutes)

1. Welcome / Warm-Up (5 min)

- Greet students with a cheerful “Hello Song.”
- Ask: “What happens in the fall?” (leaves change, wind blows, animals gather food).
- Do a quick vocal exploration:
 - “How does the wind sound?” (use siren glides)
 - “Can you make your voice sound like leaves swirling?” (light, floaty sounds)
 - “How does thunder sound?” (low humming voice)

2. Story Connection – Leaf Man (8 minutes):

1. Read *Leaf Man* aloud.
2. As you read, cue students to use instruments or movement for sound effects:
 - Wind: scarves swirl in circles.
 - Falling leaves: shakers softly “fall.”
 - Rustling animals: rhythm sticks tap quietly.
3. Pause to discuss how the music matches the story.

Ask:

“How did our sounds make the story feel alive?”

Extension:

Add vocal play (“whoosh” for wind, “plop” for leaf landing).

3. Song: “Leaves Are Falling” (8 minutes)

(Traditional children’s song, sung to “Are You Sleeping”)

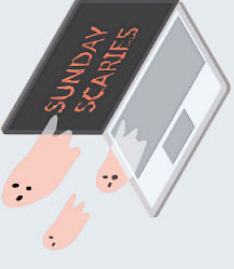
Lyrics:

Leaves are falling, leaves are falling,
To the ground, to the ground.
Look at all the colors, look at all the colors,
Red, yellow, brown; red, yellow, brown.

Procedure:



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1. Teach melody by echo (phrase by phrase).
2. Add **motions**:
 - Hands “float down” for falling leaves.
 - Point to colors for “look at all the colors.”
3. Sing with dynamic changes (soft like floating leaves, strong like a gust of wind).
4. Optional: Add scarves for visual movement.

Assessment: Observe students maintaining pitch and steady beat

4. Movement / Circle Game: “Autumn Leaves” (7 minutes)

(Based on the folk game “Leaves Are Falling Round and Round”)

Formation: Circle, holding hands or open space.
Game Play:

1. Walk in a circle while singing:
“Leaves are falling, all around,
See them flutter to the ground.”
2. On “flutter,” everyone drops to the floor like a leaf.

3. Teacher calls one student: “Wind blows [name] around!”
 4. That student “swirls” gently and tags another to be the next wind.
- Focus: steady beat, expressive movement, social cooperation

5. Reflection & Wrap-Up (2 minutes)

Discussion Prompts:

- “What was your favorite way to make music today?”
- “How did we show fall with our voices and movements?”
- Review I Can Statements:
 - “I can move like the music.”
 - “I can sing about fall.”
 - “I can listen and make sounds that tell a story.”

Closing Song: Short “Goodbye” echo song with leaves waving motion.

Extensions / Adaptations:

- Have students **create their own “leaf rhythms”** by arranging colored paper leaves (red = ta, yellow = ti-ti, brown = rest).
- Older students can **compose a short leaf rhythm pattern** to play on drums.

Standards Alignment:

MU.K.C.1.1 – Respond to music through movement.

MU.K.C.2.1 – Identify steady beat in music.

MU.K.S.1.2 – Imitate simple melodic and rhythmic patterns.

MU.1.O.3.1 – Sing simple songs in limited range.

MU.1.S.1.1 – Improvise movement or rhythm patterns to express ideas.

MU.2.C.1.1 – Respond to dynamics and tempo changes in music.

MU.2.S.3.1 – Sing songs with accurate pitch and rhythm.