

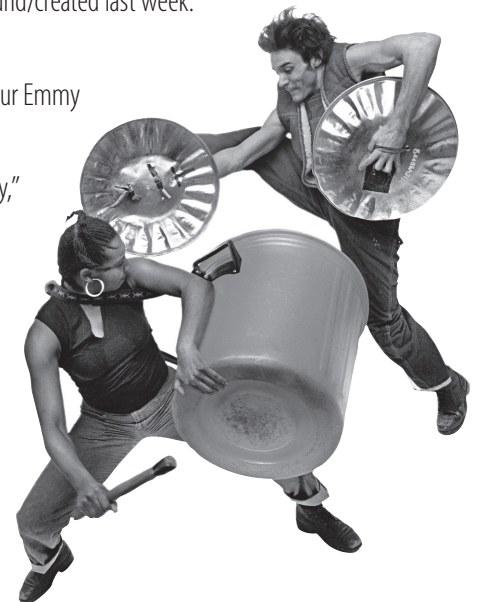
# April

## CALENDAR CONNECTIONS

Dear Families,

Celebrate music in your homes by posting the April calendar in a prominent place and using the suggestions below to add a bit of music fun to your month. Kids, if you know the answer to the Trivia Tuesday questions, be sure to let your music teacher know!

- 1 Music Monday | *Stomp* is a musical production that combines household percussion, movement, and comedy.
- 2 Trivia Tuesday | This pop female vocalist was born April 24, 1982, in Burleson, Texas.
- 3 Website Wednesday | Visit <http://www.stomponline.com/interact.php> to watch a performance of *Stomp*.
- 5 Family Friday | Find out if *Stomp* is playing in your area. See if your family can attend the event.
- 8 Music Monday | *Stomp* has been performed all around the world.
- 9 Trivia Tuesday | This artist was the winner of the first season of *American Idol*.
- 10 Website Wednesday | Visit [http://pbskids.org/rogers/video\\_stomp.html](http://pbskids.org/rogers/video_stomp.html) to watch a *Stomp* performance.
- 12 Family Friday | Gather household items and create your own "stomp" music.
- 15 Music Monday | *Stomp* won an award for "Most Unique Theater Experience."
- 16 Trivia Tuesday | In 2002, this artist's first single, "A Moment Like This," went from number 52 to number 1 on the Billboard charts.
- 17 Website Wednesday | Visit <http://www.kiddonet.com/kiddonet/allycats/allycats.htm> to play a listening memory game that includes cats and trash cans.
- 19 Family Friday | As a family, write a short story and add sound effects using the instruments you found/created last week. Practice and perform your story. Try videotaping it to share with family and friends.
- 22 Music Monday | *Stomp Out Loud*, a television special, was produced for HBO in 1997. It received four Emmy Award nominations.
- 23 Trivia Tuesday | This artist has recorded several hit songs, such as "Since U Been Gone," "Breakaway," and "Behind These Hazel Eyes."
- 24 Website Wednesday | Visit <http://www.addictinggames.com/action-games/musicstomp.jsp> to play a music "stomp" game.
- 26 Family Friday | As a family, walk around the backyard or through your neighborhood, and discover how many sounds you can create with ordinary things. Try a stick on a fence or the side of a garbage pail. What about rustling the branch of a tree or hitting two rocks together? Combine two or more sounds and see what you come up with.
- 29 Music Monday | *Entertainment Weekly* includes *Stomp* in its list of "New Classics: The 50 Best Plays and Musicals from 1938 to 2008."
- 30 Trivia Tuesday | This artist is known to enjoy taking a bubble bath and listening to Jimi Hendrix.





# Oats and Beans and Barley Grow

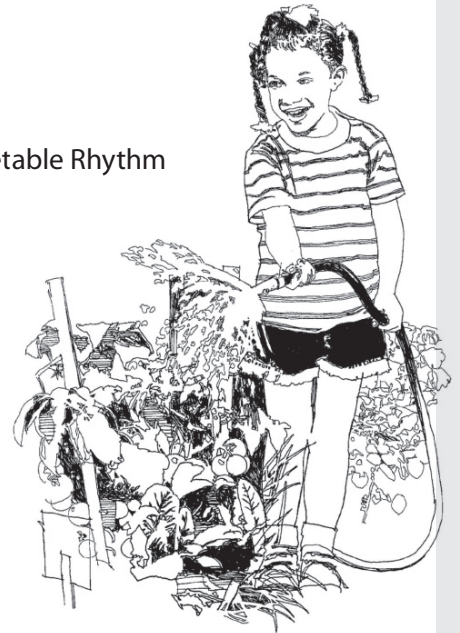
## Lesson Suggestions by Denise Gagné

**Target Concepts:** Form • Phrase

**Materials:** ① Performance Track • Non-Pitched Percussion Instruments ② Vegetable Rhythm Chart (optional) ③ Accompaniment Track (optional) ④ Piano/Vocal Score

### Lesson Suggestions

1. Ask your students if they have ever grown vegetables or had a garden. Discuss what is needed to grow fruits and vegetables.
2. Sing the song or play the performance recording. Teach the song by rote, two measures at a time.
3. Discuss the lyrics, and have the students create movements to accompany their singing. For example:



### Lyrics

### Movements

#### Chorus

Oats and beans and barley grow.	raise hands on each beat
Oats and beans and barley grow.	raise hands on each beat
Do you or I or anyone know, how	point to you, to me, hands out
Oats and beans and barley grow?	raise hands on each beat

#### Verse 1

First the farmer plants the seed,	pantomime planting seeds
Stands up tall and takes his ease.	fold arms
Stamps his feet and claps his hands,	stomp twice, clap twice
And turns around to view his land.	turn around with eyes shaded, as if surveying land

#### Verse 2

Then the farmer waters the ground,	pantomime watering ground
Watches the sun shine all around.	stretch arms up and around
Stamps his feet and claps his hands	stomp twice, clap twice
And turns around to view his land.	turn around with eyes shaded, as if surveying land

With some classes, we make a circle during the chorus, and circle right on phrase 1, left on phrase 2, take four steps in on phrase 3, and four steps out on phrase 4.

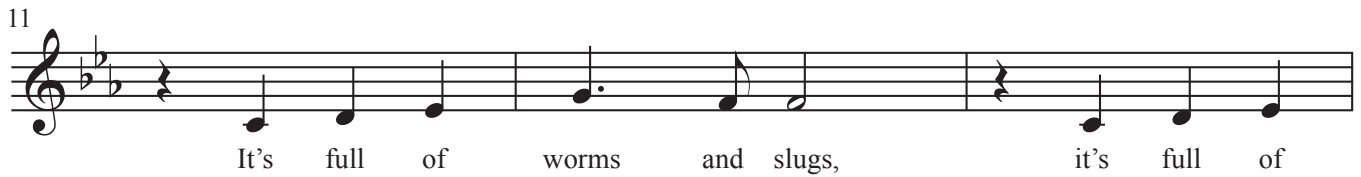
# Dirt

Ruth Elaine Schram

Mischievously  $\text{♩} = 66-72$  Part I or Unison



Let's hear it for the dirt!



17 Part I

I Let's hear it for the dirt.

Part II

II Let's hear it for the dirt. Hoo - ray for dirt!

19

I What can we do a - bout \_\_\_\_ it? We just can't

II What to do a - bout \_\_\_\_ it? We just can't

# Tonic Triad Workout

*Lesson Suggestions by Phyllis Thomas*

**Target Concept:** Melody

**Material:**  Tonic Triad Workout Flash File

## Lesson Suggestions

- Discuss with your students the importance of warming up their voices before singing. Remind the students that their vocal cords are very small membranes that vibrate with every sound. Just as running is more strenuous than walking, singing is more strenuous than speaking; warming up, or vocalizing, helps get bodies ready for singing.
- Consider beginning with some physical stretches:
  - Rolling the shoulders
  - Shaking the wrists
  - Bending over at the waist and hanging like a rag doll, then rising slowly
  - Slowly rolling the head
  - Massaging the cheeks with the fingers of both hands
  - Opening the mouth wide, like a dentist is examining your back molar
  - Moving the tip of the tongue inside the mouth from one cheek to the other; repeat several times
- Work on breathing. Inhale slowly through the nose as the arms are lifted above the head in a ballerina pose. Slowly lower the arms to the side, as the air is exhaled on a hissing sound. You may wish to snap your fingers to the count of 10 as the students lower their arms and exhale. Increase the snaps gradually to 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20 counts.
- Present the Tonic Triad Workout Flash file on your IWB or a screen. This activity takes your students through a series of vocalizations based on the tonic triad. You will select from three patterns and four ranges.

