

Kansas City Young Audiences

Teacher Program Guide

Music, Language and Math

Artist: Dino O'Dell

Performance Description

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In "Music, Language & Math", students are engaged through interactive stories and songs that incorporate finger plays, movement, fill-in-the-blank lyrics, counting songs and dramatic expression. During this musical journey, Dino and the students discover monsters under the bed, help a space alien fix his spaceship, and swim in a peanut butter pond. Students will be entertained and educated during this lively performance. The focus of the show is to engage a variety of learning styles and have fun since children learn best through play. This program is designed to utilize interaction in many ways. It progresses from the introduction's



more lecture/Q&A format to "The Pizza Polka's" singing and small motor hand gesture interaction. "Dirty Joe" focuses the children on the rhythm of the song as well as watching and listening for the starts and stops. Songs like "Zar" and "Puddle Jumper" allow students to burn off physical energy so they can more readily focus and concentrate on subsequent tasks. The narratives capture attention through character and story. "Itty Bitty Monsters" combines the narrative with a mathematics challenge.

Educational Objectives and Standards

Students will:

- Learn about and experience rhythm and melody.
- Learn about letter form, fiction and non-fiction.
- Learn about and experience cross body (hemisphere) movement.

Standards addressed:

- Music: introduces that music is a collaborative effort.
- Math: understands plus and minus and how they relate to one another.

Special Points of Interest:

Before "becoming" Dino O'Dell, Kevin Dolan was a preschool music and language arts teacher

Special REQUIREMENTS:

Open performance space, stage or gym floor preferred; electrical outlet nearby; area cleared 1 hour prior to performance; 30 minutes needed for tear down

Artist Bio: Kevin Dolan

Kevin has worked as a professional actor on stage and TV. As a musician he has worked professionally in reggae, punk, folk rock 'n' roll and Dixieland bands. His music groups have opened for Angelique Kidjo, the West African singer, and for Richard Thompson, the British singer/songwriter, among others. He has appeared in Seattle's Bumbershoot Festival, Kansas City's Spirit-Fest and the Telluride Blue-

grass Festival. He was a finalist in the Troubadour Song writing Competition and is a recipient of the Gold World Medal from the New York Festivals Association in Radio Programming.

Kevin has taught music, drama, language arts and improvisation at preschools, elementary schools, theater, churches and libraries. Kevin appears solo, as Dino O'Dell, or with the band, The Veloci-Rappers.



Kevin Dolan (Dino O'Dell)

Vocabulary

“Music, Language & Math” incorporates elements of the following musical styles:

Blues: form of music created in African-American communities during the early 20th Century. Developed from work songs, field hollers, spirituals, shouts & chants, its “call & response” style is indicative of its African roots.

Polka: fast paced, vivacious music and dance of Bohemian

origin performed in double time. Characterized by its use of the accordion, the Polka was popularized in America by Central European immigrants.

Ska: musical genre originating in Jamaica during the late 1950's. It is characterized by a strong “walking” bass line and rhythm which emphasizes the off beat. Ska was the precursor to Reggae in Jamaica.

(definitions courtesy of Wikipedia)

Klezmer: secular Jewish music dating back to biblical times. Its unmistakable style consists of expressive melodies reminiscent of the human voice, complete with laughing and weeping.

Reggae: musical genre first developed in Jamaica in the late 1960's. Reggae's rhythmic style is denoted by regular chops on the offbeat. While influenced by African and Caribbean music, Reggae can trace its direct origins back to Ska.

Post-Performance Activities

- (Recommended grades: Pre K, K & 1st) There's no doubt that Dino loves pizza. What toppings would you offer if you opened a pizza place: pepperoni, spicy sausage? How about powdered donuts as a topping? Or roasted spiders and purple apples? Create a pizza place menu by brainstorming ideas for a list of toppings.
- (Recommended grade: 2nd) Have your students write letters to Zar the space alien. Zar enjoys hanging around his spaceship reading letters from Earthlings. He also likes to play games. One of Zar's favorite games is when Earthlings write a letter that describes both real and made-up parts about their lives.

