

I. A KOREAN HAND GAME FOR AMERICAN CHILDREN

GRADES: K-3

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SUBJECT: Music, Language Arts

TIME REQUIRED: One to two class periods

OBJECTIVES:

As a result of this lesson, students will demonstrate the Korean hand game, "Flying Wild Geese," with a partner.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

Music from the attached Korean Folk Tune
Photos of Korea

BACKGROUND:

As babies, Korean children are taught a game similar to the American game of patty cake. The rhyme tells of flying geese and their taking a message to a favorite teacher. On hearing the familiar tune, Korean children immediately begin to clap their hands and join in the partner game.

PROCEDURE:

1. Be sure that students have mastered a partner hand game such as "Pease Porridge." (See endnote for a familiar version.)
2. Begin by asking the students if they have seen adults teaching hand games such as patty cake to babies. Tell the students that many countries have hand games that are taught to young children. Remind the students of the more difficult game, "Pease Porridge," that they have been taught. Using a large globe, locate the home state for the class. Then, turning the globe slowly, direct their
3. attention to the location of Korea. Display a few photographic pictures of Korea. Tell the students that there is a partner-hand game that Korean children learn as babies, taught by
4. their parents and grandparents. Ask the students to position themselves facing a partner. The first set of motions resembles
5. "Pease Porridge." The sequence begins with open palms patting lap once. Next, clap own hands once. Extend right hands to pat. Clap own hands. Open palms pat lap again. Clap own hands. Extend left hands to pat. Clap own hands. Repeat the sequence once more. Teach these motions to the students.
The next sequence of motions matches the words of the Korean version and loosely matches the
6. English translation. Tell the students to put the right hand at the right eyebrow as if shading the eye from bright sun and look upward. Then, put the left hand at the left eyebrow and look upward. Raise the right arm with pointer finger extended as if pointing upward and move the hand with the music. Use the pointer finger of the right hand as a pen to "write a message" on the palm of the left hand. The final motion has both arms crossed over chest to form an "X" as in a hug to demonstrate love.
7. Discuss with students the rhyme. The English translation is as follows:

*In the cold morning air,
I ask crying, flying wild geese,
"Take my postcard far over there,
To my teacher
For whom I care."*

- Play the tune for the students. Allow them time to connect the written words with the syncopation of the music. Note: The tune is repeated three times to reach the end of the verse.
8. Then, combine music, words, and motions. The integrated motions should go as follows:
- 9.

Partner hand motions with hummed tune but no verse.
Partner hand motions repeat, singing the first two lines of verse.
Alternate hands at eyebrows for singing third line of verse.
Arm is pointing, singing fourth line of verse.
Writing, then, arms crossed over chest for singing fifth line of verse.

10. In conclusion, suggest that the hand game be shared at home with parents, siblings and friends. If the students have the opportunity to meet a Korean child, they might begin to hum the tune, and the Korean child will know the hand game. Sometimes the Korean child might appear too shy to join in the game but will recognize the American child as a friend. Learning games from other countries and cultures helps us see how we are alike and to enjoy our differences. Ask the students to suggest hand games that could be taught to a Korean friend.

EVALUATION:

Note the success of each student in coordinating actions, words, and music with a partner. Also note the depth of understanding or intercultural appreciation from the student comments.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES:

In Korea, as the child moves into the primary grades, this hand game adds further partner activity.

When the song has ended, each partner's hands, with palms toward own body and overlapped, are moved in a circular motion around each other while saying the words, "Goo-lee, goo-lee, goo-lee, goo-lee."

This action signals the beginning of the very popular Asian game of rock/paper/scissors. At the end of the words, the partners extend right fists and count "one, two, three." On the word, "three," the right hands show one of the signs for rock or paper or scissors (rock: tight fist, paper: open hand, scissors: two fingers extended like scissors). The winner (rock breaks scissors, scissors cut paper, paper covers rock) gets to lead in the next section of the game. Students may enjoy using the Korean words, "Kawi (scissors), Pawi (rock), Po (paper), or hana (one), tul (two), set (three) for counting."

Using a finger on the right hand, the winner touches the back of the neck of the loser. The winner extends the right hand for the loser to guess which finger was used. If the loser does not guess correctly, the winner touches the neck again. This continues until the correct finger is identified. When the correct finger is identified, the partners may repeat the rock/paper/scissors game.

ENDNOTE: A version of “Pease Porridge”

Pease porridge hot.	(Lap, clap, both hands meet partner’s)
Pease porridge cold.	(Lap, clap, both hands meet partner’s)
Pease porridge in the pot,	(Lap, clap, right hands, clap)
Nine days old.	(Left hands, clap, both hands meet partner’s)

Some like it hot.	(Repeat pattern)
Some like it cold.	
Some like it in the pot,	
Nine days old.	

Korean Folk Tune

English Translation:

In the cold morning air,
I ask crying, flying wild geese,
“Take my message far over there,
To my teacher
For whom I care.”

Music: The tune is repeated three times to reach the end of the verse.

