

Down by the Station – Animal Patterning Version

Based on the book Down By the Station by Will Hillenbrand

Traditional Melody - Xylophone C, E, G

Make an engine and several train cars out of construction paper. Write “chug chug toot toot” on the engine. Have several animal manipulatives or pictures handy – farm animals work well because the children are usually familiar with their sounds!

Have children sing the basic song:

Down by the station, early in the morning,

Hear the little puffer bellies all in a row.

See the engine driver pull the little handle,

Chug, chug, toot, toot, off we go! *(teacher points to words on engine)*

Repeat chant:

Chug, chug, toot, toot!

(repeat several times, until the teacher holds up the red music “stop” sign (double bar line) and hollers, “Stop the train, I want to get on!”)

Teacher puts one animal on the first car. Class discusses what sound the animal makes. Have children practice how the train sounds now, i.e. “Chug chug toot toot, moo, moo,” repeating two or three times to reinforce new pattern. Teacher holds up the green music sign (treble clef) and every sings basic song again, this time adding the animal sound and repeating the pattern at the end. Teacher holds up stop sign and everyone says, “Stop the train, I want to get on!” Continue to add an animal sound to your pattern, according to the order of the train cars.

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