



Buzz, Chirp & Flap - Grades 2-12

How It Works: This activity isn't necessarily music-based, although music can be added to make it more engaging.

In this activity, students demonstrate their ability to perceive and reproduce melodic contours created by the flight patterns of birds and bees. The leader (usually the teacher) stands at one side of the room holding a toy bird or bee. The leader flies the bird or bee across the room and the children produce vocal sounds (e.g. hum or buzz) that match the pattern of the flight path.

For instance, if the bee flies up, the student will buzz higher to match that. If the bird flies low, the student will hum or chirp a lower pitch to match the bird in flight. As the student gets more comfortable with the idea of matching their sound to the patten of the bird & bee, you can begin varying the patterns and movements, either by going faster or increasing the range of motion. Have fun with this one by seeing how high or low the student can make their voice go or by encouraging them to keep up while the bird/bee picks up speed.

If you have two or more students, you can have one follow the bird and the other follow the bee and see what kind of sounds are created and then talk about how they compare. You can also get the student moving by encouraging them to fly along with the bird & bee.

What You'll Need

A toy bird and bee

A music player if you want to add music

An open space