Transforming Recorder Through Technology

Christopher J. Russell, Ph.D. - www.ukestuff.info - www.techinmusiced.com

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Core Beliefs & Conditions

- You see the value of recorder in your curriculum
  - A legitimate instrument
  - A way to teach melody, rhythm, and harmony
  - A way to teach music literacy
  - A pre-band instrument
  - An affordable instrument
  - An instruments students really enjoy
- Your students have access to recorders
  - Such as Peripole's Halo Series (Silver & Gold)

Challenges that Technology Can Address

- Overall instruction
  - Resources
  - Addressing chaos
  - Organization
- Differentiation
- Distance learning
- Individual practice
- Students memorizing music in place of learning to read music

Video is a Primary Technology Tool

- Video can address all of those challenges
- Two types of videos:
  - Existing content
  - Self-created
- Search for "Recorder Play Along"
  - Examples:
    - Boomy Tunes
    - Visual Musical Minds
- Don't forget to embed videos of recorder performances in your instruction
  - Lucie Horsch
  - Recorder Quartets
  - Mandalorian

How to Make Your Own Videos

- Choose a curriculum
  - BAG, EDC?
  - Book method (or **methods**)
    - How do you help them learn to read? Give them a lot to read.
    - You can always try Sight Reading Factory to generate reading exercises, too!
    - Look for a method that includes good sounding audio recordings (Demo or performance)
      - Makes this easier for you
      - Makes playing along more enjoyable
      - Helps students keep a steady tempo, learn the right rhythms, and learn to listen
    - Review the content. A lot of work has been done regarding songs with a racist or problematic past. Be sensitive to material connected to religion or holidays
- Create the content
  - Get the music into 16:9 digital format using the music notation software of your choice
  - Find a video software program that works with your equipment
    - Video editing works in layers of audio and sound
    - Core layer is your 16:9 digital music
    - Underneath the core, you add audio
    - You can then add images on top (bouncing ball, shapes, etc.)
    - You can make several versions (demo, performance with guides, performance without guides, for assessment)
  - You can always create new audio files
  - You can always adjust speed of an existing audio file or adjust channels (split audio)
  - Can be used by the whole class or individually
  - Created videos will never feel "dated."

Benefits

- Makes recorder "authentic"
- Gives students a metronome and allows them to play expressively
- Teaches students to listen
- Allows students to practice or perform independently
- Reaches students in a format they are familiar with
- You can have enough content to keep students reading music
- Takes advantage of technology in a good way
- Music and audio are in one place…easy to use and impossible to lose
- You can add tutorials for your students
- You are potentially multiplying yourself as a teacher in your classroom
- Videos can be embedded in many classroom management systems

Copyright

- Did you buy the method and resources?
- Are you going to share your resources beyond your classroom?
- If "Yes" and "No," then you should be fine.

Using Videos

- All playing
- Small group testing
- Practice room set-ups
- 1:1 access on devices

Assessment

- Video assessment: record while playing along with the video
- Your choice if a student uses a recording or not
- If you do rewards/levels, think about digital solutions (not all systems have these)
- You can choose to grade, assess by standards, use a rubric, etc.

Other Technology

- Nuvo Instruments
  - Recorder +
  - Dood
  - Toot
- ARTinoise re.corder
- Recorder fingering fonts (fontspace.com)

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- Blog, materials, method: ukestuff.info
- Play along videos: YouTube.com/ukeplayalongs
- Other ukulele videos: YouTube.com/ukestuff
- Searchable index: ukeability.org
- Technology in Music Education: techinmusiced.com.