

INTRODUCING HANDBELLS/CHIMES IN YOUR MUSIC CLASSROOM

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HANDCHIMES AND HANDBELLS ARE WONDERFUL TOOLS FOR TEACHING MUSIC!

- Easy to learn how to ring
- Hands on music experience
- Teaches music reading
- Teaches team and cooperation
- Builds confidence
- Beautiful sound and fun to ring!
- Even though the initial expense may scare you – the instruments hold their value and last a long time

**THIS IS AN
INTRODUCTORY
LESSON FOR
TEACHERS**

This PowerPoint Presentation should take several days to complete in a music classroom.

You may want to skip some slides or modify the presentation for use with your students

Student Lesson
starts here

PARTS OF A HANDBELL



Bell Body – Casting

Hand Guard

Handle

Clapper Head

Clapper Mechanism

Note name and octave



PARTS OF A HANDCHIME

Clapper head

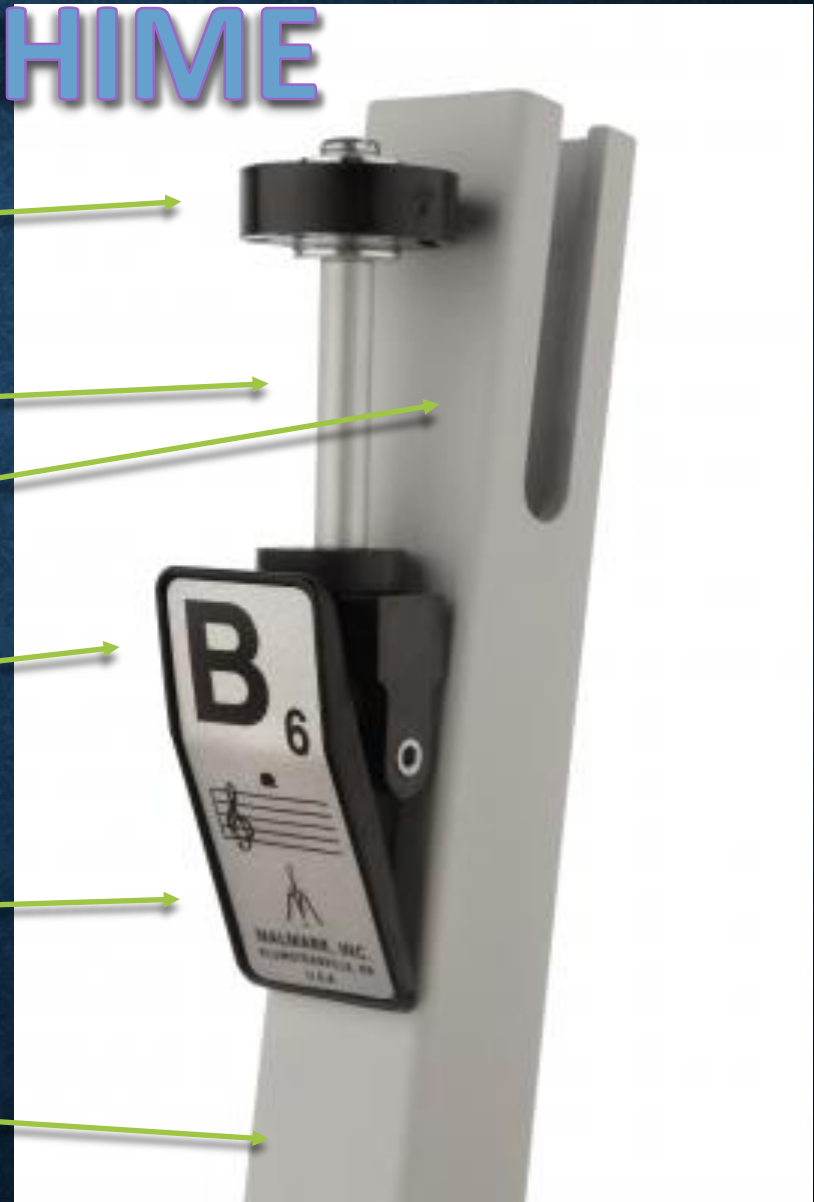
Clapper shaft

Chime body

Note name and octave

Clapper assembly, not for
thumb!!

Hand grip



CHECK MARK STANCE

- Stand with your feet shoulder width apart and one foot slightly in front of the other



HOLDING A HANDBELL/HANDCHIME PROPERLY



Shake

Shake hands with your neighbor

Look

Look at how your hand is gripping your neighbor's hand

Pick up

Pick up a bell or chime with your left hand and place the bell in your right hand with the bell picture facing your hand.

Lift

Lift the bell/chime up parallel to your shoulder! The bell should balance on your open hand.

Close

Gently close your index finger and thumb around the handle/chime – no tight grip – just enough pressure to hold on to bell/chime!!

LET'S RING THAT BELL OR CHIME

Wait!!

Let's look at the three elements of ringing a bell or chime

- Preparation
- Strike
- Follow Through

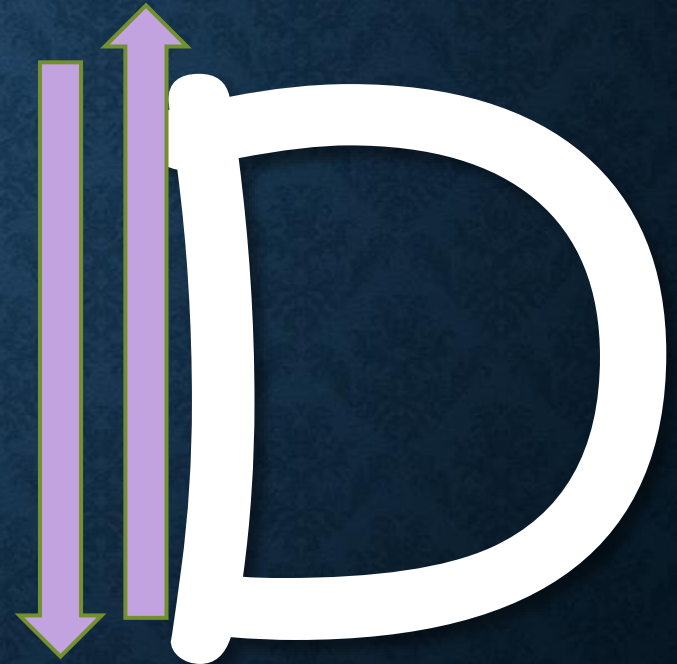
Each part is very important!





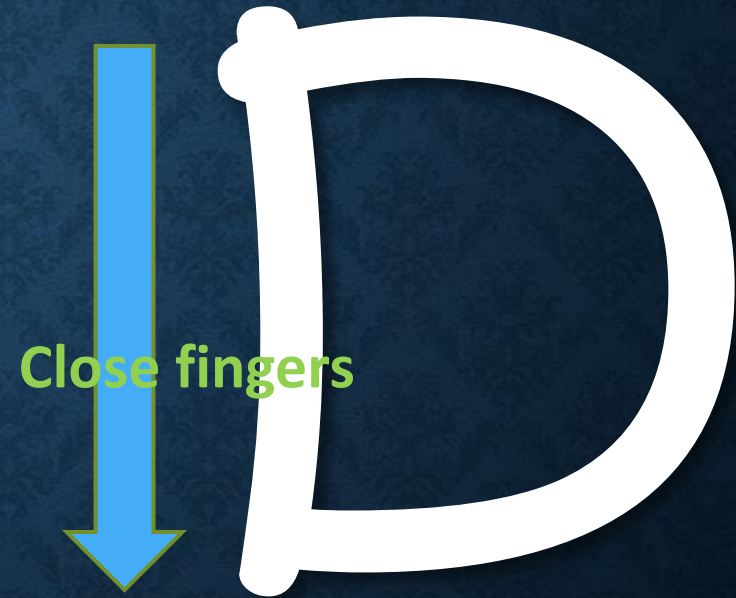
PREPARATION

1. Imagine an upper case letter “D” in front of you with the straight part of the letter next to your body.
2. Lower and then raise your bell/chime down the straight part of the D and see how it moves.
3. Hold your instrument just above eye level and lower until your hand is parallel to the floor. Don't ring.
4. What happens to the bell/chime?



STRIKE

- As you slowly lower the bell/chime to parallel, gently close your other three fingers around the handle and squeeze to ring the bell/chime.



FOLLOW-THROUGH

- After the bell/chime rings, loosen the three fingers and follow the curved part of the D back to the top of the straight part of the D.



WHERE DOES THE SOUND COME FROM!

- What makes the bell or chime make a sound?
- Exercise: Ring the bell and listen to the end of the bell where the clapper is

Turn the bell upright and listen to the body of the bell.

Do the same with the chime.

- What part of the bell or chime does the sound come from?

YOU ARE RIGHT!

THE SOUND COMES FROM THE BODY NOT THE CLAPPER!

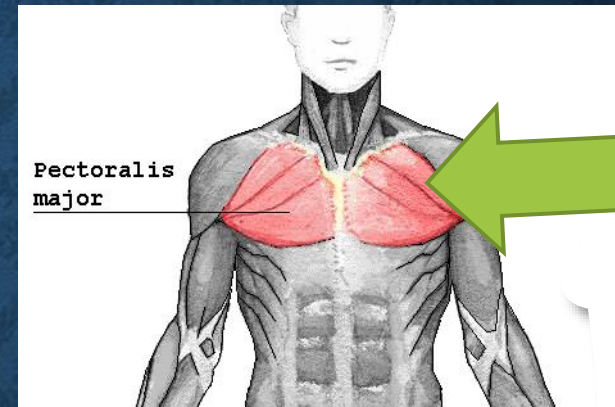


The Body of the
bell or chime



DAMPING – STOPPING THE SOUND

- After the follow-through, at the top of the “D” touch the rim and body of the bell to your **pectoral muscle**, the soft tissue between your shoulder and your collar bone.
- You must roll chime to its side in order to damp.



Damp chimes when there is a rest or when
your note changes



ring damp ring damp ring damp ring damp ring damp ring



RH LH RH LH RH LH RH LH RH

PRACTICE DAMPING

FIND THE NOTE NAMES ON YOUR BELLS OR CHIMES



Note Name



NOW FIND YOUR NOTE NAMES IN THE CHORD CHART

1 = All C's E's and G's



2 = All G's B's D's and F's



3 = All F's A's and C's



4 = All D's F#'s A's and C's



5 = All G's B's and D's

INTRODUCTION OF NOTE VALUES



The quarter note at beginning of each chord song indicates playing on each beat or pulse.



A half note at the beginning means that you play on every two beats or pulses



Remember to “damp” as your note changes

CHORD SONGS

1 = All C's E's and G's

2 = All G's B's D's & F's

Row, Row, Row Your Boat


 1 1 1 1 | 1 1 1 1 | 1 1 1 1 | 2 2 1 -||

Mary Had a Little Lamb

  1 1 1 1 | 2 2 1 1 | 1 1 1 1 | 2 2 1 1||

End of
Day 1

Skip to My Lou

 1 1 1 1 | 2 2 2 2 | 1 1 1 1 | 2 2 1 1||

Start Day 2 with
a review of Day
1 then move on
to this slide

Kum Ba Yah

Intro

Song

♪ 1 1 1 3 | 1 1 1 1 | 1 1 1 3 | 1 1 1 1 |

1 1 1 1 | 2 2 2 1 | 1 1 1 3 | 1 1 1 3 |

1 = All C's E's and G's

2 = All G's B's D's and F's

3 = All F's A's and C's

1 1 1 2 | 1 1 1 _ ||

MORE CHORD SONGS

1 = All C's E's and G's

2 = All G's B's D's and F's

3 = All F's A's and C's

4 = All D's F#'s A's and C's

Jingle Bells

Jingle bells, Jingle bells



1 1 1 1 | 1 1 1 1 | 3 3 1 1 | 4 4 2 2 |

1 1 1 1 | 1 1 1 1 | 3 3 1 1 | 2 2 1 - ||

1 = All C's E's and G's

2 = All G's B's D's and F's

3 = All F's A's and C's

4 = All D's F#'s A's and C's

5 = All G's B's and D's

Yankee Doodle

♪ 1 - 1 - | 1 - 5 | 1 - 3 - | 2 - 1 - | 3 - 3 - | 1 - 1 - | 3 - 3 - | 1 2 1 1 ||

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

Twink le, Twink le Li t - tle Star

♩ 1-1- | 5-5- | 3-3- | 1--- | 3-3- | 1-1- | 2-2- | 1--- |

1-1- | 3-3- | 1-1- | 5--- | 1-1- | 3-3- | 2-2- | 5--- |

1-1- | 5-5- | 3-3- | 1--- | 3-3- | 1-1- | 2-2- | 1---||

1 = All C's E's and G's

2 = All G's B's D's and F's

3 = All F's A's and C's

4 = All D's F#'s A's and C's

5 = All G's B's and D's

End Day 2

1 = All C's E's and G's

2 = All G's B's D's and F's

3 = All F's A's and C's

4 = All D's F#'s A's and C's

5 = All G's B's and D's

Start Day 3 with earlier songs and review then move on.

America the Beautiful

Oh Beautiful for ...



1 - 1 - | 5 - 5 - | 2 - 2 - | 1 - 1 - | 1 - 1 - | 5 - 5 - |

5 - 4 - | 2 - 2 - | 1 - 1 - | 2 - 2 - | 2 - 2 - | 1 - 1 - |

3 - 3 - | 1 - 1 - | 3 - 2 - | 1 - - - ||



At this point, when trying to remember which hand for 5 different chords, you can move to finding their notes on the Grand Staff



Once the students find their note names and octave number indication, you can move to music written on the staff.



The sky is the limit!!!

**MOVE TO
READING
NOTES ON
STAFF**

FIND THE NOTE NAME AND OCTAVE ON YOUR BELLS OR CHIMES



Note Name

Octave designation



YOUR BELL/CHIME ON THE GRAND STAFF

Look at your bell/chime and find the Letter name and the Octave number
Find your letter and number on the Grand Staff below

Handbells on the Grand Staff

A musical notation diagram showing handbell pitches on a grand staff. The grand staff consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The notes are organized into four measures. The first measure contains notes D5, E5, F5, and G5. The second measure contains notes A5, B5, C6, and D6. The third measure contains notes E6, F6, G6, and A6. The fourth measure contains notes B6 and C7. Below the bass clef staff, the notes C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, and C5 are listed, corresponding to the positions of the handbells on the grand staff.

Measure	Notes
1	D5, E5, F5, G5
2	A5, B5, C6, D6
3	E6, F6, G6, A6
4	B6, C7

C4 D4 E4 F4 G4 A4 B4 C5

CHORD SONGS ON THE GRAND STAFF

The same song
we played with
the 5 chords!

America the Beautiful

The image displays a musical score for the song "America the Beautiful" on a grand staff. The score is divided into two systems, each consisting of a treble and bass clef staff. The first system is labeled with numbers 1 through 4, and the second system is labeled with numbers 5 through 8. Each number corresponds to a specific chord diagram shown above the treble staff and below the bass staff. The chord diagrams consist of circles representing notes on the strings of a guitar. The first system is in 4/4 time, and the second system is in 3/4 time. The title "America the Beautiful" is centered at the top of the first system.

America the Beautiful continued

The image displays a musical score for the song "America the Beautiful". It is divided into two systems of two staves each (treble and bass). The first system contains measures 9 through 12, and the second system contains measures 13 through 16. The notation is simplified, using vertical lines with small circles to represent notes on the staff. Measure 16 includes a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Start Day 4
by playing
chord
songs for
fun then
reviewing
notes on
the staff
and
playing
America
the
Beautiful

End
Day 3

My
Country 'tis
of Thee

Musical score for the hymn "My Country 'tis of Thee". The score is presented in three systems, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The score is divided into 14 numbered measures. Measures 1 through 10 are simple chords. Measures 11 through 14 show more complex chordal textures, with measures 12, 13, and 14 featuring multiple notes per staff, indicating a more active accompaniment.

1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 10

11 12 13 14



This is the end of the student's lessons. Here is where you can begin reading music from any source. Chordal songs that move together rhythmically work best to begin with. Then you may branch out to melodies accompanied by chords and other music that you have prepared the students for.

CREATE YOUR OWN CHORD SONGS

Find

Find simple songs with just a few chords.

Use

Use your music writing software or pencil and staff paper to create music for your group.

Be

Be aware of copyright laws

RESOURCE LIST FOR BEGINNER BELL/CHIME MATERIAL



You can find a Resource List on the Area 4 Handbell Musicians of America website under the Chime Loan Program tab.

<https://area4handbells.weebly.com/chime-loan-program.html>

Some Resources for Handchimes and Handbells

Handbell Musicians of America Area 4 website

- Chime Loan Application and Information
- Chime Resources List

Chimeworks.com – a new website for teaching chimes

- Instructions on “How to”
- Downloadable lesson plans for using chimes in the classroom
- An alphabetized and leveled list of published songs suitable for chimes

Jeffers Handbell Supply- handbellworld.com

All your needs for bells or chimes! Music, games, awards, supplies, etc.

StevieBeMusic.com – Stevie Berryman has a wealth of knowledge, insights, rehearsal ideas and games on her website.



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA

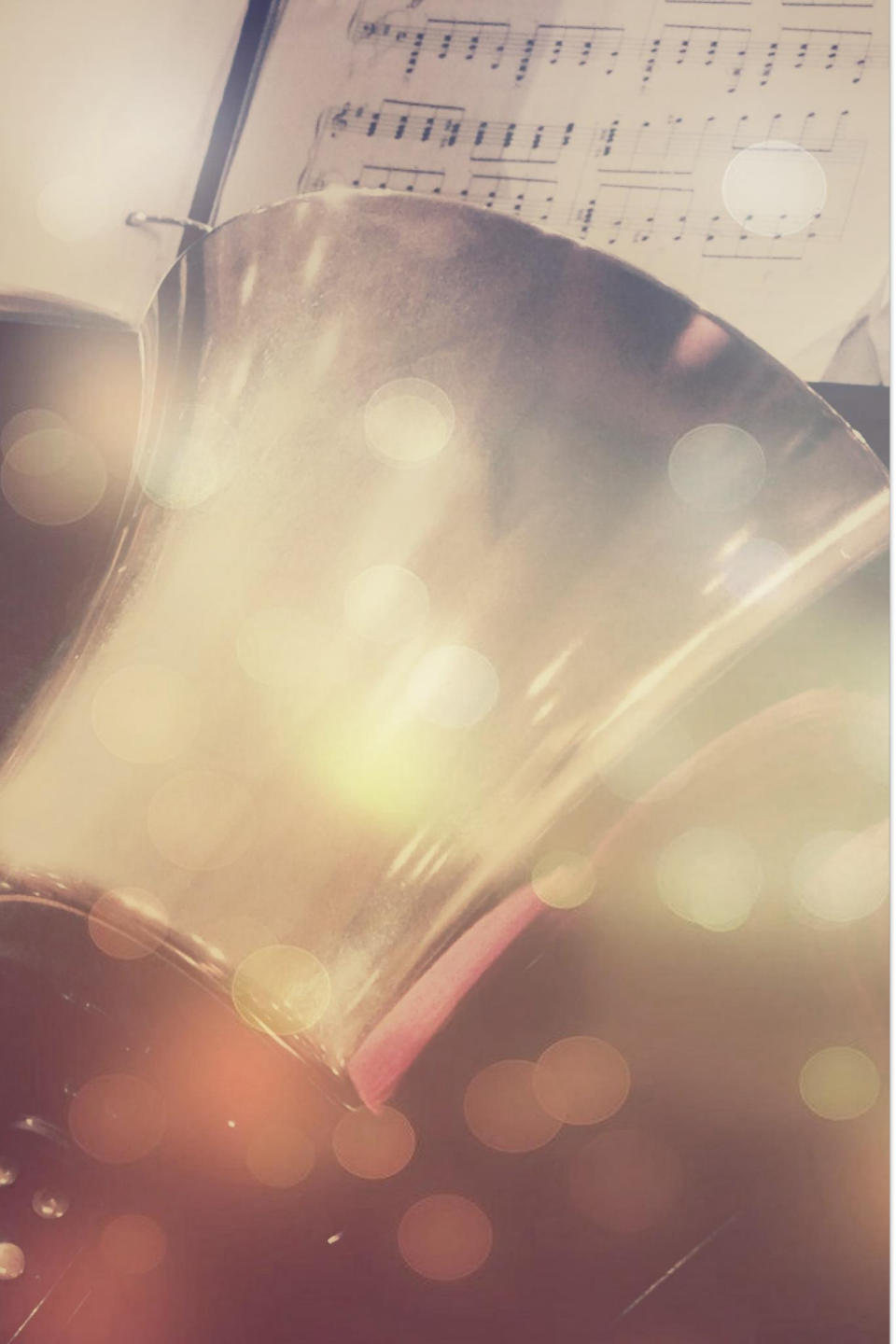


The QR code below takes you directly to a Google Form Application that can be filled out on your computer!



Chime Loan Application

- Check out the many resources for using chimes or bells in the classroom and see what Handbell Musicians of America has to offer.
- Our Chime Loan Program offers the loan of a 3-octave set of chimes for an entire school year. Fill out the application by March 30



HAVE A GREAT TIME INCORPORATING BELLS OR CHIMES INTO YOUR CLASSROOM!!

GET IN TOUCH IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

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