**Creative Approaches to Movement in the Orff Classroom**

**Props, Poems and Stories, an Examination of How to Select the Best Materials for Sensory Work in Early Childhood**

**Early Childhood Performing Arts Conference**

**August 19-20, 2017**

**Hosted by Victorian Orff Schulwerk Association, VOCA**

**Presenter: Victoria Redfearn Cave**

**\*\*See website for electronic notes and song recordings\*\***

[**www.orffteacher.com**](http://www.orffteacher.com)

**Saturday Workshop**

**March 22, 2014**

**Central Carolina Chapter**

**Victoria Redfearn Cave**

[**www.orffteacher.org**](http://www.orffteacher.org)

**“Finally, on a daily level, risk a slower pace in your work with children, a pace that allows time to consider creative questions and their answers. Personal reflection and construction of knowledge takes more time than simply dictating knowledge.” Peter Webster, “Thinking in Music: Encouraging the Inner Voice,” *The Orff Echo* Summer, 1996**

**Prop Tips**

1. Hand made items can provide much warm and value for students.
2. All props should be unusual and catch the eye of young friends.
3. Props can be unique by having interesting texture, size, or materials.
4. It can be helpful to invest in quality items that last. (wood, silk)
5. It is always okay to let children know that this is a “looking work, not

a “touching work.” It is also okay to let children know something

is special or fragile.

1. It is always better to have fewer items that inspire magic. No clutter.
2. How can you present the item using “nonverbal cues” or magic so that

children are brought into your excitement and passion for the item?

**Examples**

Bounce High: learned from Nancy Cooper in 1992

 Bounce high, bounce low, bounce the ball to Shiloh.

 s l s m s s l l s m

 \*\*This is a catching game, not a throwing game.

 \*\*Soft hand made ball

 Colors Around Us: unknown source

 “Colors around us, colors surround us \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (choose color)

 Makes our world bright.”

 \*\*Sarah’s silks product

 My Favorite Sound: from Victoria Redfearn Cave

 “My favorite sound, my favorite sound, my favorite sound is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 My favorite sound, my favorite sound, what’s your favorite sound?”

 \*\*Hand made puppets bought from a local Orff chapter. Unusual characters (baby

 hummingbird on a flower, Little Red Riding Hood.

Shoo Turkey: Traditional African-American play party, taught to me by Ivy Rawlins. From the collection of Bessie Jones.

“Little girl, little boy? Yes, ma'am. Well, did you go to the barn? Yes, ma'am. Did you feed my turkey? Yes, ma'am. Well, did you get any eggs? Yes, ma'am. Well, did you bring them home? Yes, ma'am Did you give 'em to your mama? Yes, ma'am. Well, did she put 'em in the bread? Yes, ma'am. Well, is my turkey gone? Yes, ma'am. Which way did he go? So, so. Which way did he go? So, so. (hands to the side on "so, so") Well will you help me to find him? Yes, ma'am. Get ready let's go Shoo, turkey, shoo, shoo Shoo, turkey, shoo shoo Shoo, turkey, shoo, shoo (with turkey shooing motion)”

\*\*Turkey puppet, especially soft!

Wooden Duck

**Skills:** Balance, waddle, first contact improvisation experience. Locomotor movements in general space.

 **Concepts:** Self-space and general space. Weight: light touch.

 **Procedure:**

 Follow the pulse of the duck with “waddling” from a seated position. Also follow the start/stop cues from the duck.

 When the duck stops, touch a friend—experiment with connecting

 The “waddling” can become locomotor.

 What are other ways to travel?

 Contact with friend in high and low positions.

 Add music: *Milladoiro* and the English Chamber Orchestra by Iacobus Magnus

**Small Group Work**

Examine books in your group.

What books would work well for movement and music?

Why?

What books are more challenging, why?

We will create a checklist together to use for choosing literature for early childhood.

Notes on animals and movement words………….

**Planting a Rainbow**

 Potential Songs:

 Oh What a Day (source unknown)

 Colors Around Us (source unknown)

 The Tree Song (I’m Growing Up, New England Dancing Masters)

 Round the Oak Tree (by James Harding)

 \*\*Flower chants, created by children

 \*\*Growth with creative movement