

## Objectives:

- Children focussed, engaged and feel the excitement of suspense at start of the lesson.
- Give the lesson structure and routine.
- To incorporate movement to the beat.
- Beginnings of posture and feet placement.
- Warm-up whole body away from the instrument.
- Introduce the concept of an ostinato pattern (D, A, D, A to the beat).
- Explore sound effects on instrument.
- Children take ownership of story and have the opportunity to continue it.
- Creates a discussion which leads to student realising they create their instrument's unique voice!

# WE'RE SEARCHING FOR A DINOSAUR!

## **Chorus:**

**We're searching for a dinosaur,  
We're not afraid of a BIG LOUD ROAR!**

1. To get to the forest we run up the street,  
Past crowds of people with pitter-pat feet.  
(Running on tiptoes: pitter-pat, pitter-pat)

## *Chorus*

2. We skip through the park we hear loud screams,  
Kids having fun and eating ice creams.  
(Skippity skip, skippity skip)

## *Chorus*

3. Through the stream we must splash,  
Time is short and we must dash.  
(Stamp: Splash, splish, splash, splish)

## *Chorus*



*We're searching for a dinosaur continued...*

**Chorus:**

**We're searching for a dinosaur,  
We're not afraid of a BIG LOUD ROAR!**

4. Into the forest we warily creep,

We trip on a twig and up we leap... (Percussion trip noise like a vibraslap)

Up in the air and down by a tree,

Who is that, we can see?

- Children give their answers or you could use the following verse to set the scene...

A dinosaur, bright and tiny,  
Eyes wide open, scared and shiny.  
Bracing ourselves for his big loud roar,  
We're met by a whisper, nothing more.  
"I've been asleep for millions of years,  
I've woken up, to face my fears!  
I've lost my voice; can't speak or sing,  
I only whisper and make a ping!"

The concept is that the children have to help Stringosaurus find his expressive voice... Just as we don't speak in a monotone, Stringosaurus will also need several different voices, timbres or tones to his voice. These voices will take time to establish and will need a critical ear and constant analysis, but this can be done in a playful way.



# WE'RE SEARCHING FOR A DINOSAUR POSTURE AND BODY AWARENESS...

## **Chorus:**

**We're searching for a dinosaur,  
We're not afraid of a BIG LOUD ROAR!**

- Stomping to the beat can help feet placement to be hip width apart. Luckily, it is very challenging to stomp with your feet too wide or too close together.
- Ask the children what happens to various body parts when they skip? Especially focus on the shoulders, arms and hands... Do they swing? Are they loose or tight?
- Ask the children to become a tree in the forest. Root feet into ground, wobble knees, flex toes and grow gently upwards keeping everything loose. The arms rise up like branches, keeping relaxed in the shoulders. Sway in the gentle breeze and breathe long deep breaths.

## **Top tip...**

*My children love seeing who is the tallest tree! They desperately hope they have grown taller from their last lesson.*

# WE'RE SEARCHING FOR A DINOSAUR WITH THE INSTRUMENT

## **Chorus:**

**We're searching for a dinosaur,  
We're not afraid of a BIG LOUD ROAR!**

- Instead of stomping to the beat with the chorus, try plucking the strings to the beat in a pattern of D, A, D, A etc. Use this opportunity to introduce the musical concept of an ostinato to children.
- Ask children to compose their own simple ostinato patterns using just two strings. Can they say the chorus at the same time as playing?
- Extend the pizzicato into left hand pizzicato to encourage a loose left arm and beautiful hand shape.
- Discuss the possibility of sound effects on your instrument. In particular, how you could make the trip and fall sound and what could you do for the dripping and splashing sounds?