Down by the Bay: Using Music to Get in the Mood of Phonological Awareness



**intent:**

Activate prior knowledge about phonological awareness and meet tablemates.

**OUTCOMES:**

Participants will meet and talk with tablemates, think about existing knowledge of phonological awareness, and experience a strategy that could be replicated with students.

**Materials Required:**

* PowerPoint with song lyrics
* Tablemates
* Optional: iTunes version of “Down by the Bay”
* Pretend microphones for each table

**Time:** 5 minutes

**Process:**

* Provide a brief introduction to the activity.
* Invite participants to stand and sing the song with you group. (Trainer may choose to play the iTunes version of “Down by the Bay” in the background while the whole group sings.)
* Trainer pause after the first verse and pick up the pretend microphone. Create a new verse, trading out words so that the rhyme and rhythm remain.
* Ask participants if they think the new lyrics work as a new verse. If they agree say, “It’s your turn now.”
* Start again with the whole table group singing the first verse on the slide. Then one tablemate will grab the microphone and take a turn adding a new verse. Each person at the table group should have a turn creating a new verse.

Debrief Questions (Participants share their thoughts about these questions with their tablemates):

* Think about what you know about phonological awareness; how is this activity activating our knowledge and skills in phonological awareness?
* This exact activity is in a vignette on page 134 of the Preschool Curriculum Framework. If you were to do this type of activity with your students, how might you set it up?
* How might the microphones be beneficial to replicating this activity with students?