Vocal Play



![MPj04331790000[1]]()**intent:** Engage participants in a playful activity from the *Preschool Curriculum Framework (PCF), Volume 2* that supports the development of pitch capabilities and vocal inflections for preschoolers.

**OUTCOMES:** Participants will learn and be able to use this activity with children to playfully support the development of pitch capabilities and vocal inflections.

**![MCBS00539A0000[1]]()**

**Materials Required:** PPT Slide 26, slide whistle, Optional: Candle stick

 **Time:** 5-7 minutes

![MPj04384510000[1]]()**Process:**

Invite participants to stand up, telling them it’s time to play with our voices! Remind them that standing up provides better diaphragm support, reducing stress on vocal chords.

Presenter says: “Vocal play warms up the vocal muscles needed for the more exact task of singing songs on pitch and supports expanding the range of notes they can sing.”

Instruct participants to place their hands on their chest, feeling the chest rise and fall with each breath. Together, make a low “ahhhhhhh” sound, patting the chest and feeling the sound vibrating in the body. Participants can play with various vocal sounds. **Emphasize attention to feeling the resonating in the body and where the sound arises from.**

Use the slide whistle to regain attention of participants. Play the slide whistle sound again and say, “On my cue, we are going to slowly imitate the whistle sounds together.” Then presenter instructs and demonstrates, “Keep your hands on your chest, take a deep breath. Fill up your chest and belly with air, then as you make the whistle sound, squeeze your belly in, pushing the air up through your chest as you make the whistle sound. You’ll feel the sound resonate as it moves up through your chest, passes through the vocal cords and out your mouth. Play with that sound a few times.”

Presenter says: “Now let’s bring it to the classroom… Together, we’ll say the nursery rhyme, “Jack be nimble, jack be quick…” As Jack/Jill jumps over the candle stick use your voice to say… WOOOOOOoooooop! As he/she jumps make your voice go up and down like a roller coaster. Start in a low voice, bend over arms low… go up high with your voice, raise your arms, then slide back down to low for the final part of ‘woop.’

**OPTIONAL:** Engage several participants in being “Jack” or “Jill” as he/she jumps over the candle stick.

![MCj02958800000[1]]()

**SUMMARY:** This activity engages participants in a playful activity from the PCF Vol. 2 that supports the development of pitch capabilities and vocal inflections for preschoolers.