

Class Composition in an Elemental Style
 With elements inspired by Northeast Woodlands Native American music
 Tim Purdum
 AOSA 2011

Rainbow Crow

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♩ = 80

Ai - - - - ya! Rain - - bow crow, Where will you go?
 Ai - - - - ya! Rain - - bow crow, Where will you
 go? Can you stop the snow? Ai - - - - ya!
 Rain - - bow crow. ya! Rain - - bow crow.

1. Begin by learning the melody of *Rainbow Crow*, on recorder (preferable) or barred instruments.
2. Play *Rainbow Crow* in an overlapping canon. Class chooses introduction, coda, and rhythmic accompaniment to create arrangement.
3. Review the characteristics that we are using from Native American music: simple rhythms, repeated phrases, descending phrases, Pentatonic scale.
4. Establish a new, faster, compound beat by echo-calling and playing a drum.
5. On barred percussion, set up in *do* Pentatonic on G, play *question & answer* improvised phrases, 4 or 8 beats long. Next, have each student practice and repeat a pattern that she likes. Share ideas with the class.
6. Each student turns to a partner, and together they create a longer (8 or 16 beat) pattern using ideas together. These ideas are shared with the class.
7. The class as a whole now chooses two favorite patterns and a simple phrase form (*abab*, *aabb*, *aaab*, *aaba*, *abba*, *abbb*), and creates a melody. The melody is then arranged using varied instrumentation, accompanying patterns, etc.
8. The melody is placed into a larger sectional form based on the needs of the dancers who are creating the "happy dance".