

## PAT'S PULSE ON ALL THINGS AWESOME IN EDUCATION

### September's Suggestions

# When Your Class Gets Noisy + More

## Welcome back-to-school Arts Integration Teachers! (AITs)

A whole year is waiting for you to get started - with students excited to be reunited with their friends and getting back into a routine. Make sure in the first few weeks of [ArtsAround](#) that you set clear boundaries and expectations when it comes to working with a partner or small group, since the arts can become very boisterous and loud. Especially when the students start playing instruments with their Music Teams or Ensembles - depending on what you prefer to call them.

Become one of the members of an Ensemble, the first time you are showing the students how to care for the instrument they are playing, as you demo 'best practices.' Ice cream cans or garbage cans, or pails can work as drums too.

1. Demonstrate the level of noise you expect when four Music Teams are all rehearsing in each corner of the room. Also make sure that the Orff player always holds two mallets, with his/her wrists light and flexible to provide a nicer sound than slamming the mallet down hard with a locked wrist. Look here:

 [Michael Hamm Beginning Mallet Grip Technique for PAS Classroom](#)

2. Every Music Team must have a member who keeps a beat on a drum, so the tempo stays the same during the song. Alert children who are rushing a song or are lagging. The drummer should have two drumsticks, not one. This requires more concentration alternating both right and left-hand use. If you watch this YouTube, you will see how the children should hold a drumstick.

 [Easy First Drum Lesson - For Kids!](#)

Plus most of you may want to use a djembe or bongo drum as well. Check this out.

 [Playing the Djembe Drum with Mister Boom Boom](#)

3. In some lessons you will conduct the whole class and in other lessons, the students will be jamming, improvising or reading notes, with their Music Team, as they bring sheet music to life. Having looked at a ton of recommendations from experienced teachers, the list below, I believe, may be of help to you when it comes to classroom management.

- a) [How to Calm Young Children Down in Minutes](#)
- b) [Attention Grabbers](#)
- c) [Little Learners](#)
- d) [Classroom Management](#)

## September Ted Talk: Reimagining Classrooms Teachers as Learners and Students as Leaders

Although some of you reading this may not be a classroom teacher this year, reimagining education should continue to be a hot topic amongst all educators. Talk to each other! Be your own support network! Create a Google Hangout to toss ideas around and share what works for you in the classroom. Most importantly -enjoy every moment with your kids.

The beauty of appreciating the arts is for some kids, the only chance they will ever get to sing, dance, play in a band, pretend and make believe that they are someone else or get to act like a rock star! You are making an impact! Walk proudly AITs! Your kids are waiting for the magic that only you can bring to them through the arts! Never think they do not notice, because they do.....

[WATCH HERE](#)



## WHEN YOU THOUGHT I WASN'T LOOKING

By Mary Rita Schilke Korzan

When you thought I wasn't looking, you displayed my first report, and I wanted to do another.

When you thought I wasn't looking, you fed a stray cat, and I thought it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn't looking, you gave me a sticker, and I knew that little things were special things.

When you thought I wasn't looking, you put your arm around me, and I felt loved.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw tears come from your eyes, and I learned that sometimes things hurt -- but that it's all right to cry.

When you thought I wasn't looking, you smiled, and it made me want to look that pretty too.

When you thought I wasn't looking, you cared, and I wanted to be everything I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking -- I looked...and wanted to say thanks for all those things you did when you thought I wasn't looking.

**Have a great opening month, AITs!** Enjoy your students, because we all know they do not miss a thing! They are always looking! For some, you are their hero. Bring them joy, fun and silliness. Bring out the best in each of them. They will always remember that **ArtsAround** was a ton of fun!

**For the FINALE, please take the time to read this informative article titled:**

 [Arts Integration in School: 10 Reasons Why It's Important](#)

