

MUSIC TECH FOR KIDS

Standard Curriculum Framework • Lesson Plan

Module / Unit: Module 6: Vocal Recording & Foley SFX

Estimated Time: Multi-Session Framework (45-60 Mins Each)

Lesson Title: Lesson 6: Writing and Recording Lyrics

Target Audience: Elementary Music Students

TEACHER PREP CHECKLIST (BEFORE STUDENTS ENTER)

- **Hardware Infrastructure Choice:** Determine and test your engineering recording deployment option:
 - *Option A (Preferred):* Decentralized student recording using internal Chromebook or 1-to-1 device microphones.
 - *Option B:* Centralized 1-on-1 capture at the teacher desk using a dedicated hardware audio interface, an external XLR/USB microphone, and the master project folder.
- **Lyric Sheet Duplication:** Print the physical Lyric Writing Handouts for student tracking and physical storyboard planning.
- **Deploy Assignment:** Create a new project window titled "*Assignment 6: Writing and Recording Lyrics*" in your BandLab Classroom suite.

LESSON OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

Overview: This lesson introduces vocal tracking and acoustic orchestration. Students brainstorm and formalize original rhyming couplets based on visual album assets, use internal tracking tools to record their voices directly into the DAW timeline, learn basic audio compilation, and explore public access acoustic libraries to design supportive context environments.

Learning Objective: By the end of this lesson, students will write structured rhyming verses using an alphabet-rhyme expansion matrix, configure a new DAW audio tracking lane labeled "VOX," execute recording sequences using transport shortcuts, manage vocal takes, and integrate thematic Foley audio clips.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE

- **Teacher Requirements:** Projector/Display layout, Album Artwork asset, optional USB/XLR audio interface, external studio microphone.
- **Student Requirements:** Classroom workstation device, stereo headphones, physical Lyric Writing Handout, integrated device microphone.

LESSON SEQUENCE & IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

TIME	ACTIVITY FOCUS	TEACHER ACTIONS & STEPS	STUDENT ACTIONS & ROLE
00-10 min	Pacing Review & Lyric Concept Introduction	<p>Evaluate class progress. If necessary, introduce or conclude the automated outro/fade-out mechanics outlined in Module 5.</p> <p>Display the central Album Cover artwork. Re-engage student brainstorming filters: <i>What actions are taking place? Where is this character going? What items or background settings are visible?</i></p>	Analyze structural timeline elements, revisit visual cues, and brainstorm descriptive nouns and narrative paths based on the artwork.
10-25 min	Lyric Writing Handout & Rhyme Matrix	<p>Distribute the physical writing sheets. Guide students through the layout:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choose 4 target core words seen in the artwork (e.g., <i>Horse, Robot, City, Reins</i>). 2. Generate 4 rhyming match options per word by scanning through the alphabet. 3. Formulate full rhyming sentences on the blank workspace rows. Notes can adapt to rap verses or melodic hooks. 	Log 4 visual words, utilize the alphabet scanning technique to write down rhyming options, and combine these phrases into an organized lyric verse on paper.
25-40 min	Vocal Tracking Demonstrations & Execution	<p>Gather student attention for a direct studio workflow demonstration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add a new Audio Track and label it "VOX". 2. Move playhead precisely to Measure 21 on the VOX row. 3. Configure the "Autopitch" dashboard and toggle on input monitor tracking. 4. Tap "R" to initiate recording; use the Spacebar to stop capture. 	Watch tracking protocols, generate custom vocal lanes, monitor incoming gain signals via headphones, and record their lyrics precisely at Measure 21.

TIME	ACTIVITY FOCUS	TEACHER ACTIONS & STEPS	STUDENT ACTIONS & ROLE
40-45 min	Acoustic Foley SFX Orchestration	<p>Direct students who are waiting for recording checkouts or finishing early to add production details using the pre-labeled "Sound effects track".</p> <p>Instruct them to open the Sound Panel, search explicitly for the term "Foley", and insert environmental background clips at structural song transitions.</p>	<p>Access the sound asset browser, query Foley sound effect databases, audition environment clips, and drop supporting effects into their timeline.</p>

CURRICULAR PRO-TIPS & TACTICAL TROUBLESHOOTING

BROWSER HARDWARE PERMISSION BLOCKS

If utilizing localized device recording, many students will accidentally click "Block" when the browser requests microphone access. If a workstation is not picking up input signal, click the small padlock icon on the left side of the browser URL address bar, manually switch microphone access permissions to "Allow," and refresh the session tab.

TAKE MANAGEMENT & ASSET PRESERVATION

BandLab does not have an automated playlisting environment for storing extra audio takes. If a student records a flawed section, they can highlight the clip rectangle and delete it to try again. However, if they are unsure about a specific vocal take, show them how to click and slide that audio block down to an empty measure section further down the timeline to preserve it for later evaluation.

UNSYNCHRONIZED TRACKING ENTRIES

Elementary students will frequently try to hit record and sing immediately without watching their timeline grid. Emphasize checking the DAW "Count In" metronome parameters before tracking so they receive a clean rhythmic warning count before the tracking head crosses into Measure 21.

***Pacing Strategy:** Writing lyrical stories, managing acoustic audio signals, handling take options, and balancing Foley assets is a dense production workflow. Expect this module to require multiple continuous classroom sessions to fully execute.*