

Program Study Guide

Storyteller and Percussionist

Jerry G. White

A PERFORMANCE METHOD

www.aperformancemethod.com

A Performance Method-Breaking Ground is a one-man show. The performance incorporates theater, music, percussion instruments, and singing. Breaking Ground is about how Alex Johnson a member of the famed 54th Massachusetts Infantry during the U.S. Civil War. George Washington Carver a Botanist and inventor, Bass Reeves a U.S. Federal Marshall. Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis a Tuskegee Airmen during WW II, Horace King, Architect and Bridge Builder, and Satchel Paige Major League Baseball Pitcher had to break ground to achieve their greatness.

ARTIST BIO

JERRY G. WHITE:

As a percussionist, lyricist, songwriter, screenwriter, writer, producer, director, actor, and singer, Jerry G. White fuses all of those elements into his passion and love for performing and being an arts educator. A graduate of Newberry College (SC) with a BA in Speech and Theater, Jerry G. White has taught all ages the art of performance, which includes percussion, acting, singing, juggling, storytelling, songwriting, producing, directing, and writing. He is an Imaginator at the Children's Museum of Atlanta. You can find Jerry G. in May and September volunteering and performing at the Decatur Arts Festival and the AJC Decatur Book Festival. He performs throughout the Atlanta metro area with his performance entity A Performance Method. His beloved phrase and mantra is "Bring the words to life!"

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SET-UP INSTRUCTIONS



1. Space: Media Center, Cafeteria, etc.
2. 3 Quarter Audience Seating (Horseshoe)
3. 8 ft Table, Electrical Outlet
4. @1 Hour Set-up Availability

GEORGIA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

ELAGSE1RL1: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text

ELAGSE1RL3: Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.

ELAGSE1RL7: Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters, setting, or events.

ELAGSE1SL2: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.

M1GM.1 - Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music

M1GM.1b. Echo simple singing and speech patterns; perform call and response songs.

M1GM.2 - Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music

M1GM.2a. Echo simple rhythmic patterns using body percussion as well as classroom instruments with appropriate technique.

M1GM.2b. Perform a steady beat and simple rhythmic patterns using body percussion as well as classroom instruments with appropriate technique

M1GM.4 - Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments

M1GM.4a. Improvise simple body percussion patterns.

M1GM.4b. Improvise soundscapes (e.g., weather, animals, and other sound effects).

M1GM.9 - Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

M1GM.9a. Sing, listen, and/or move to music from various historical periods and cultures.

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KEY VOCABULARY

Djembe-a kind of goblet-shaped hand drum originating in West Africa.

Snare Drum-a small drum in the form of a short cylinder with a membrane at each end, the upper one being struck with hard sticks and the lower one fitted with snares. It originated in military use.

Rudiments-Drum rudiments are the basic tools of the drummer. They are the accepted standard in the performance of the basic rhythmic patterns that comprise many of the rhythmic patterns found in the common compositions in Western music. Rudiments are used as exercises for performers to practice and hone their technical skills.

Paradiddle-an exercise or sequence performed typically on the snare drum, marked by four basic beats with alternation of the right hand and left hand on successive strong beats, and begun and ended slowly with a dramatic increase in tempo in the middle.

Slavery-a condition compared to that of a slave in respect of exhausting labor or restricted freedom

Plantation-a usually large farm or estate, especially in a tropical or semitropical country, on which cotton, tobacco, coffee, sugar cane, or the like is cultivated, usually by resident laborers.

Civil War-The war fought in the United States between northern (Union) and southern (Confederate) states from 1861 to 1865, in which the Confederacy sought to establish itself as a separate nation. The Civil War is also known as the War for Southern Independence and as the War between the States.

Tuskegee Airmen- the Tuskegee Airmen is the popular name of a group of African-American military pilots and ground crew who fought in World War II. Officially, they formed the 332nd Fighter Group and the 477th Bombardment Group of the United States Army Air Forces

Plant Rotation-is a systematic approach to deciding which crop to plant where in your vegetable garden from one year to the next. This method is natural soil fertilization.

Negro Baseball League-Was a United States professional baseball leagues comprising teams predominantly made up of African Americans and, to a lesser extent, Latin Americans. These baseball players were excluded from playing with White baseball players during the late 1800's to the 1940's.

KEY VOCABULARY CONTINUED

Native Americans-In the United States of America, Native Americans are people who belong to one of the over 500 distinct Native American tribes that survive intact today as partially sovereign nations within the country's modern boundaries; Cherokee and Creek.

Lone Ranger- is a fictional masked former Texas Ranger who fought outlaws in the American Old West with his Native American friend.

OBJECTIVES

- To be creative in the awareness of teaching the Civil War.
- To show the Historical significance of Percussion instruments
- To engage the students in Performance Arts by using Percussion instruments
- Engage the students in History through music, Theater, call and response and by *breaking the third wall* (Bring the students into the story).

ASSESS THE LEARNING

- What book (s) were highlighted?
- What year did the Civil War begin and end?
- What Percussion instrument was used and what continent did this instrument originate.
- What Percussion Rudiment (Rhythm) was mentioned in the presentation?
- What is a patent?
- What is the Georgia State Song?

EXTEND THE LEARNING

- Read more about the History and pain of Slavery.
- Read more about The Civil War or The War Between the States.
- Read more about the products invented by George Washington Carver.
- Read more about the Famous Tuskegee Airmen.
- When you listen to music try to guess how many different Rudiments or Rhythms that you can hear.
- Watch the movie *Glory* about the 54th Massachusetts Regiment.
- Go on-line and watch videos about Bass Reeves.
- Negro Leagues were United States professional baseball leagues comprising of African American and occasionally Latin American players.
- You too can become a Drummer! Join your school band or orchestra!

BOOK RESOURCES

Books

Bearden, Romare, *LI'L DAN the drummer boy A Civil War Story*
Hardcover-2003


Mitchell, Barbara and Illustrated by Peter E. Hanson, *A
Pocketful of Goobers-A Story about George Washington Carver*
Paperback-1986

Nelson, Vanda Micheaux and Illustrated by R. Gregory Christie,
*BAD NEWS for OUTLAWS- The REMARKABLE LIFE of BASS REEVES DEPUTY
U.S. MARSHAL* Hardcover-2009

Homan, Lynn M. and Thomas Reilly and Illustrated by Rosalie M.
Shepherd, *The Tuskegee Airmen Story* Hardcover-2002

Herbert, Janis, *The Civil War for Kids: A History with 21
Activities (For Kids series)* Paperback - 1999

Adler, David A and Illustrated by Terry Widener, *Satchel Paige
Don't Look Back*



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