

Designing a Singing Program

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Some useful ideas for selecting songs:

- Songs with a catchy, interesting or engaging melody/tune
- Have a balanced repertoire of varied genres – ie: Cultural, Rock, Jazz, Country, Folk, songs from different eras, etc.
- Ensure all lyrics and message of the songs are appropriate for the age level (some songs are worth using when changing the occasional lyric/s)
- Ensure lyrics are not likely to cause offense to any cultural, religious or ethnic group.
- Include appropriate songs which are relevant to students in terms of what they listen to currently
- Songs related to a theme.

Choosing good songs will be the number one thing you can do to engage students in singing.

Finding and sourcing material to use in a Singing Program

Where to look for material for your program.

- Songs you have enjoyed from your past – oldies but goodies rarely go out of style. Look through your CD collection!
- Google! – ie. Blues songs for Junior Primary; Fun songs for 9 year olds, etc.
- You Tube search in the same way.
- Hunt through resources which may be lying around the school.
- Ask students – get them to write down their favourite songs.
- Songs on a theme or concept, which may be cross-curricula – ie. food, the sea, harmony, working together, etc.
- Songs which may specifically target a singing skill – ie. Doh, Ray, Me/Tonic Sol fa.
- Songs from Musicals – ie. The greatest Showman.
- TV or movie themes.
- Songs of a specific performer – ie. Elvis Presley.

