



MorseBass - Memorable Morse with Music!<sup>sm</sup>

Educational Activity: "Your Musical Initials"

Materials: voices, instruments useful but not required

A .-	B -...	C ---	D ..	E .	F ..-	G --.
H ....	I ..	J .---	K -.-	L .-..	M --	N -.
O ---	P .--.	Q ---.	R .-	S ...	T -	U ..-
V ...-	W .--	X -.-.	Y -.-.	Z ---.		

Step 1: Using the Morse Code chart above (or some other resource), help participants locate and write out their initials. Examples

John/Jane Doe (JD): -... -..      Laura Smith (LS): .-.. ...      Teddy Bear (TB): - -...

Step 2: Sound out the initials, emphasizing the length of the dashes and the curtness of the dots.

Examples

JD: daahditditdit, daahditdit      LS: didaadidit, dididit      TB: daah daahdididit

Step 3: Have the participants repeat their initials, and begin to play with adding a melody to them.

Step 4: Listen to each melody, repeat it back to the student, and record it using your own voice, perhaps accompanied by an instrument. When recording with an instrument, consider transposing to an easy key, such as the key of C, so students may be able to play their melodies on their own instruments. Depending on your familiarity with musical notation, you may wish to write the melody down for the student.

Step 5: Depending on the comfort level of the class, the participants may wish to share their melodies with each other. Otherwise, you can share these melodies with the group. After a short break, return and have the students test themselves on their melodies. Do not put them on the spot. A short discussion could follow, where students could share whether having a musical melody helped them to remember the two letters that formed their own initials, or those of any of their classmates.

Step 6: Advanced participants may wish to try to form a melody using their entire first or last names.

Example:

