



Recorder Frolics

**Easy Ensemble Pieces
for Soprano Recorder**

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The Pieces

These pieces are written for beginner recorder ensembles. Each ensemble has a particular musical focus and challenge to the young musician. Certain parts might be played by the teacher on tenor recorder or Orff instruments based on the needs and musical facility of your players. Introductions, interludes between repetitions, movement accompaniments, and improvised percussion parts are also possible. Performance suggestions are given at the end of this book. I encourage you to expand these pieces to meet your musical needs and creativity. Enjoy!

The PACD

A performance/accompaniment audio CD is available as a supplemental resource for this book. It contains full performance versions of each piece as well as accompaniment versions minus the soprano recorder tracks. The CD is suitable for classroom and individual practice sessions as well as accompaniment for public performance.

The CD was recorded at Electric Arts Studio in Singer's Glen, Virginia. The recording engineer was Bart Reardon and the producer was Brent Holl. Bass Samples by Abraham Laboriel are courtesy of Spectrasonics Bass Legends.

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The PACD

Full Performance Track List

1	It's in the BAG
2	Wake Up! You Sleepy Head
3	Such Grace
4	E's and Low D - Canon in Three
5	Frolics With F#'s
6	Round E Round We Go-e
7	Warm and Witty
8	What to Do With 3 and 2
9	On a Roll
10	Low and Sweet
11	Cameron's Train

Play-Along Version Track List

12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22

It's in the BAG

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1 8

Soprano Recorder 1

Soprano Recorder 2

Tenor Recorder

Musical notation for measures 1-8. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The Soprano Recorder 1 part starts with a treble clef and a sharp sign. The Soprano Recorder 2 part starts with a treble clef and a sharp sign. The Tenor Recorder part starts with a treble clef and a sharp sign. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes.

5 8

SR 1

SR 2

TR

Musical notation for measures 5-8. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The SR 1 part starts with a treble clef and a sharp sign. The SR 2 part starts with a treble clef and a sharp sign. The TR part starts with a treble clef and a sharp sign. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes.

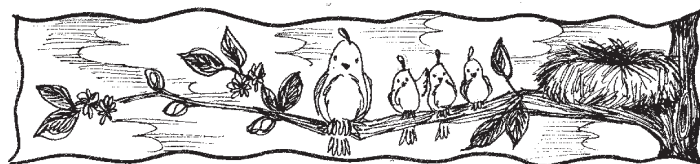
9 8

SR 1

SR 2

TR

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The SR 1 part starts with a treble clef and a sharp sign. The SR 2 part starts with a treble clef and a sharp sign. The TR part starts with a treble clef and a sharp sign. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes.



Teaching Suggestions and Performance Notes

“It’s in the BAG”

- This study uses B, A, and G and simple rhythms.
- A percussion ostinato might be added.

“Wake Up! You Sleepy Head”

- A limited number of pitches are used in a slightly more complex piece than the first.
- Invite children to add a text to the Soprano Recorder 1 part.
- In a final performance, you might use the Hand Drum Ostinato as an introduction.

“Such Grace”

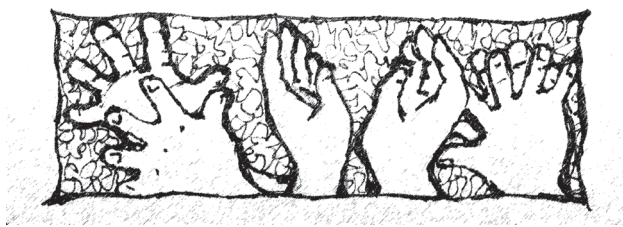
- This study in G pentatonic uses 6/8 meter.
- Students could play the Soprano Recorder 1 line as an introduction, then repeat the entire piece as written.
- Students could create a graceful dance to the piece.

“E’s and Low D - Canon in Three”

- Invite the group to play the melody once in unison and then repeat in canon.
- Play the hand drums throughout.
- This piece could be used to introduce high E to beginners since it only is used once.
- Play low E if you prefer and challenge your class to play the high E.

“Frolics With F#”

- Suggest using the Hand Drum Ostinato as an introduction and as an interlude between repetitions.
- You might have the group play line 1 in unison, then line 2, and finally as written.
- Explore playing other melodies in thirds.



“Round E Round We Go-e”

- Practice those E's in 6/8!

“Warm and Witty”

- Encourage students to use legato tonguing throughout. Lighten air flow to keep high E's in tune.

“What to Do With 3 and 2”

- This piece presents a rhythmic challenge for students. Suggest additional Latin percussion instruments to make this piece swing!
- Note that the pitches used in this piece do not go above high D.

“On a Roll”

- You could present F natural with this piece. This piece also has a challenging Tenor Recorder part.

“Low and Sweet”

- This piece in C pentatonic includes high and low C.
- Encourage students to improvise pentatonic interludes between repetitions of the melody creating a recorder rondo.

“Cameron's Train”

- Add train whistles, repeat, and accelerando! Off you go!

Hand Drum Notation

- Stems down = slightly accented down stroke played with the thumb
- Stems up = unaccented up-stroke played with fingertips.

