

## **ADB.ATU 3M: Learning a Song – Helpful Hints**

### **Auditory Methods**

Auditory methods involve listening to learn a song.

#### **Echo Singing:**

1. The teacher, singer, or musical director sings a phrase.
2. Students echo that same phrase back.
3. Continue through the entire song, progressively adding more and more lines.
4. Finish by singing the whole song together.

#### **Sing Along:**

This method requires a song that has a repeating chorus or phrase that the students can sing together as the teacher leads them through the song.

1. Repeat a part of the song several times.
2. Students join in as they feel comfortable singing it. This allows students to learn the song at their own pace.
3. Usually three or four repetitions are all that is required before every student has joined in.

This method may not work for more difficult songs or for songs with many verses.

### **Visual Methods**

Visual methods require students to look at something to learn.

#### **Sight Read:**

This method only works if your students already know how to read music, and have a basic knowledge of sight singing. Visual learners benefit from seeing the notes.

1. Students read the music and follow along.
2. Students may also make drawings or diagrams of the melody line to create their own visual reinforcement of their understanding of a tune.

#### **Picture Cues:**

1. The teacher uses simple pictures that illustrate parts of the song.
2. The teacher may show the students the pictures to cue them throughout the song.

**Tactile Methods**

Tactile methods require students to learn through physical action.

**Act it Out:**

1. Teacher and students create actions to accompany the words of the song. These may be literal interpretations of the lyrics, or emotionally expressive gestures.
2. Students then work through the song with these movements.

**Sculpt a Tune:**

1. Students use their hands to draw the melody line of the song in the air.
2. They move their hands up and down as the pitch changes.