Rocky Mountain

* This piece is used as a 3rd grade pentatonic improvisation lesson
* It is an AB form

National Standards

1. Sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music
2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music
3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments
4. Reading and notating music

Day 1

1. Clap familiar rhythms and have students echo back (use quarter notes, half notes, eighths notes)
2. Clap out melody of Rocky Mountain
3. Start to sing Rocky Mountain
4. On the sheet music, start to label notes with Do Re Mi So La

Day 2

1. Pull out barred instruments (Wait to play)
2. Review the song Rocky Mountain (focus on solfege)
3. Have students practice section A of Rocky Mountain (Remove B/F) \*Start on C
4. Play together focusing on study beat, note lengths and correct notes
5. Practice time for students, while you walk around to check in

Day 3

1. Students start to practice and review Rocky Mountain Part A
2. Play together (Decide if more practice again/move on)
3. Students practice part B
4. Play together
5. Practice part B for student, teacher checks in with students

Day 4

1. Students review and practice part B Rocky Mountain
2. Play together (decide to practice again/move on)
3. Play entire piece
4. Student practices; teacher checks in
5. Play all of Rocky Mountain

Day 5

1. Play Rocky Mountain
2. Discuss the rhythms and take them apart
3. Put solfege aside (note here that it is the pentatonic scale)
4. Have students arrange different rhythms
5. Students play new rhythms on barred instruments (explain improvisation)
6. \*If time: Have basses play Do and So while students make up own solo