

piano, drum kit
mood, blues

The I Don't Wanna Blues

A friend thought I wrote this about her daughter, but its really about me. Maybe its about you too? Explore mood in music and emotions that are a part of living as you sing along.

The I Don't Wanna Blues

Key G, first note mi(B)
a cappella count-in: 1,2,3,4,I don't...

Canada
Lesley J. Clare
c. 1990



I don't wan-na wear my socks. (I don't wan-na wear my socks.) Don't
I just pulled my pup-py's tail. (I just pulled my pup-py's tail.) I
I don't wan-na go out-side. (I don't wan-na go out-side.) Don't



wan - na wear my shoes. (Don't wan - na wear my shoes.)
spilled my milk on you. (I spilled my milk on you.)
wan - na stay in - doors. (Don't wan - na stay in - doors.)



And it's all be-cause I've got, (And it's all be-cause I've got) the
And it's all be-cause I've got (And it's all be-cause I've got) the
I don't wan - na wear a smile. (I don't wan - na wear a smile.) *



I don't wan - na blues. (The I don't wan - na blues.)
I don't wan - na blues. (The I don't wan - na blues.)
May - be in a while. (* May - be in a while.) "Cause"

Chorus



I don't wan na do this got the I don't wan-na blues.



I don't wan-na do that x but hear my good news! lo-



day I don't have to be hap-py, To -day I don't have to be sad.



Just be-ing me is e-nough for to-day and that is all to be said.





scared



sad



embarrassed



happy

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People who were slaves in the United States sang to keep themselves company --worksongs and spirituals. After freedom came their lives were still hard. They took songs they knew and changed them into a new kind of music, "the Blues". "Blue" songs often had calls and responses, a flattened sound and changes in tempo. Today people still write "the Blues" to express their sad or upset feelings.

Practice and Review



Movement, Beat, Rhythm: Keep the Beat/Keep the Rhythm

Students have been sitting for a while. Get them up on their feet for Keep the Beat.

1st Time: everyone walks in place for the beat/claps the rhythm

2nd Time: divide the class in half

half of the class does the words; half the class does the "spelling"

e.g. Keep the beat on your feet (half the class)

BEAT (the other half of the class) and so on



Song, Slur, Culture: Gung Hay Fat Choy

"Gung Hay Fat Choy" (Leave space for students to wish you a Happy New Year.)

"What special things do people in China do to celebrate their New Year?"

(give money, sweep out bad luck, dragon dances) **Why doesn't Chinese New**

Year start on January 1? (lunar calendar/moon calendar)

Post the music and sing through the song once with the recording.

"What is the name for this music symbol? (slur) What does it tell us to do?"



2 notes
different pitches

Mood: New Song The I Don't Wanna Blues



Before class begins, pull out a few pieces of coloured construction paper including bright yellow, blue(bright), orange, grey-blue, green and red. Hold these in your hand and fan them out to attract children's attention.

"Do you have a favourite colour? Hands up if its blue, red, etc. Looking at a colour can make you think or remember things. Looking at a colour can also provoke/spark feelings in us. Look at this paper(bright yellow). Where do you see yellow? (my shirt, paper, sun) When you see yellow, what do you feel? (most people report "happy") What about this paper(bright blue or green)? (calm) Now look at this paper(grey-blue). Many people say this colour reminds them of being sad or grumpy or lonely. Can you think of a reason why? (its dull, it doesn't have a lot of colour, its like clouds on a rainy day) Today's song belongs to a group of songs called "The Blues". Listen so you can tell me what the colour "blue" means in this song."

Sing(without the echos) or play all 3 verses and choruses of "The I Don't Wanna Blues".



sad



"So what feeling is "blue" in this song? What is the person in the song thinking or feeling?(out of sorts, grumpy, unhappy...) Everybody feels that way sometimes.

What happens in the chorus of the song? (the person starts to feel better, it sounds like good things...) What kind of things help you to feel better when you're sad?"

Today I don't have to be happy
Today I don't have to be sad
Just being me is enough for today
and that is all to be said.



Teach the words and tune for the chorus by having students echo each line after you. Then do two lines at a time, and finally the whole chorus.

- 4** "The I Don't Wanna Blues" ---the word "blues" is right in the title of this song. There's a whole kind of music called The Blues. "Blues" songs often have an echo in them. Why is it good to have echos in a song?" (Echos mean that not everybody has to know all the words to sing the song.)

The composer's name is Lesley who says that, "When I was grown-up, I wrote this song remembering how I felt sometimes when I was young. Sometimes I still feel "blue" --but that's okay because then it passes and I feel better again. Singing is one of the things that makes me feel better again."

"Lesley sings one of the verses in the recording. Sing the echos and the choruses this time, and at the end of the song I'll ask which verse you think Lesley sings." Play the recording from the mp3 or mp4

- 5** "Excellent echo singing. Which verse do you think Lesley sang? Why?" (Note to teachers --I kind of like that people can't tell who I am from my name.)

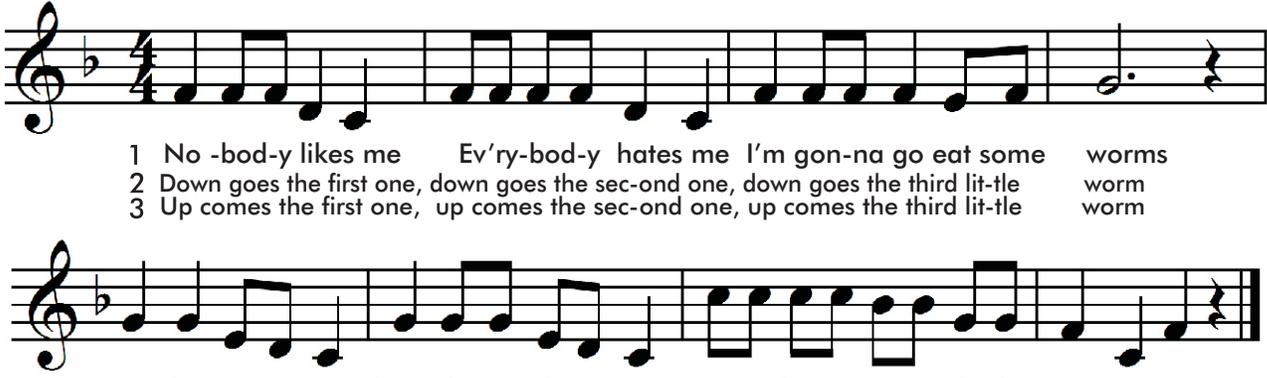
Mood cont.: New Song **Nobody Likes Me**

- 6** "Sometimes when people feel "blue," they think that nobody likes them. Here's another song to sing when feeling "blue," but I don't recommend doing what the song says. Maybe you can tell me why. Listen." (Sing: Nobody Likes Me with feeling and tempo that fit the words.)

Nobody Likes Me

Key F, first note: F(do)
a cappella count-in: 1,2,3,4,Nobody...

CampSong
Canada
1950s



1 No -bod-y likes me Ev'ry-bod-y hates me I'm gon-na go eat some worms
2 Down goes the first one, down goes the sec-ond one, down goes the third lit-tle worm
3 Up comes the first one, up comes the sec-ond one, up comes the third lit-tle worm

Big fat juic -y ones long skin-ny slim-y ones It-sy bit-sy teen-y lit-tle worms yum yum

- 7** "Eating worms, yuck! Is that a good idea? Why "yes" or Why "no?" (I remember singing this song while eating chicken noodle soup which my mother thought was disgusting (the singing, not the soup). You may want to suggest this as an alternative kind of time to sing the song. Children at camp love this song, maybe because camp food is sometimes difficult to identify.)

The tune for this song is very easy to pick up --as are the first two lines of words. Teach it using echoes for each line. While teaching, continue to model a voice that "fits" the song in tempo and mood. Your choice as to whether or not to include the 3rd verse.

- 8** After the class is able to sing the entire song ask: "What kind of dynamics have we been using to sing this song?" (slow or andante tempo, sad voice, piano/forte)

The I Don't Wanna Blues

Blues

Key G starts on mi

Count-in: 1,2,3,4,I don't...

Canada

Lesley J Clare

c. 1990



verse I don't wanna wear my socks
Don't wanna wear my shoes
And it's all because I've got
The I don't wanna blues

chorus I don't wanna do this got the I don't wanna blues
I don't wanna do that, but hear this good news
 Daddy is baking me cookies, Grandma just gave me a hug
Even my puppy is wagging his tail, all around me is love

verse I just pulled my puppy's tail
I spilled my milk on you
And it's all because I've got
The I don't wanna blues

chorus I don't wanna do this got the I don't wanna blues
 I don't wanna do that, but hear this good news
The rain is falling on flowers, the sun is still up above
(or Snow is falling down gently)
Even the birds are enjoying today, all around me is love

verse I don't wanna go outside
Don't wanna stay indoors
I don't wanna wear a smile
** Maybe in a while CAUSE

chorus I don't wanna do this got the I don't wanna blues
 I don't wanna do that, but hear this good news
Today I don't have to be happy, today I don't have to be sad
Just being me is enough for today, and that is all to be said