



Bugsy and the Pizzicato Polka

Pizzicato Polka

Music: Johann and Richard Strauss

Story/Lyrics: D. Ziolkoski

Let's do the Bug Dance!



Introduction: "*Pizzicato, not Legato*." Bugs love the jumpy sounds made when violin strings are plucked! Much more fun than when played smoothly - legato! Imagine you are plucking the strings of a violin while singing "pizzicato" and then on "not legato" demonstrate how to play the strings smoothly with your bow then toss your bow into the bush!

A Using a hand drum's skin and rim explore movements for: Bug-step, wiggle, wiggle and heel-toes. Decide how your bug might do these steps. What would it look like? Ask students to try to do the bug step with one foot leading. Try scratching the skin of the hand drum for wiggle, wiggle and tapping the rim for heel-toes. Claves work well too! When you have the movements put them all together. Try singing along.

"It's bug step wiggle, wiggle, bug step wiggle, wiggle, heel-toe, heel-toe, clap, clap, clap. II"

B Bugsy wanted to twirl like the humans did! Create fancy ways to twirl as a bug would. Can you pretend to bump a bug friend's hip on "one light bump?" This is always fun! Listen carefully to the music and create movements which suit the music best. Do this alone or with a friend!

"And gracefully we turn around with one light bump, one light bump. Gracefully we turn around with one light bump then let's start again, and take one hand, and raise it slow and off we go..."

A Repeat Section A

C Can you do a royal nod like the humans do? How might one "step out and nod?" Explore this movement as you sing along with the music.

"Step out and nod, step in and nod, step out and nod, step in and nod, now shake hands with your partner [and we'll try this part again]! [and continue to the end]?"

D Using your hand drum make a strong, loud sound with a mallet. What could this be? Yes! A jump! Play and say: Jump, jump, jump and breathe: The bugs are learning to fly so take three huge jumps (on the spot) and take a breath/gasp for air!

"Jump, jump, jump and breathe...jump, jump, jump and breathe, shake your arms and now your legs [they must be loose to be of use]! II [let's start again my bug eyed friend]!"

- Repeat from the beginning.

Coda Can you "flitter"? What might this look like? Turn around like a "flittering bug" tip your hat and then flitter some more and take a royal bow! **Bravo!**

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Let's Add Instruments!

Bugsy's Pizzicato Polka is the perfect piece to add instruments to! Choose which instruments suit the sound qualities of the music. Line up students in the order they appear in the music. Take a peek at the instruments suggested instruments in the [Fun with Composer's Teacher Guide](#) or the instrument map in the [Go Bugs](#) visual presentation.

Story, Music Map, and Audio Files: The story, music map, and audio files (with and without lyrics) are included in the [Fun with Composer's Teacher Guide](#) or kids can follow along in the [Go Bugs](#) Visual Presentation. If you have purchased the Teacher's Guide or the [individual lesson](#) you may reproduce the Music Map and composer's colouring page for your students. Attach it to an introductory letter to the parents which may be found [here](#).