

Guinea Pig in the Music Room!

Guinea Pig Rap

Deb Engel, Stewart Elementary
Princeton City Schools

This is a very simple, easy to implement, lesson plan that was successful with my 2nd through 5th graders in the music classroom! While focusing on our rhythm unit, my students created their own piece of music that gave them practice at reading and writing rhythms while learning about our classroom pets Oliver & Peanut, the Guinea Pigs. I will provide my specific example for Guinea Pigs but this can ***easily be adapted for any rhythm and any pet.***

My goal in submitting this lesson is to encourage more special area teachers to share a pet. I see 500 students every three days and they all have a connection to the Pigs and look forward to checking on them every morning. Including them in our classroom lessons empowers each student to take part in their care and encourages them to take good care of any pets they may have at their home.

National Music Standards:

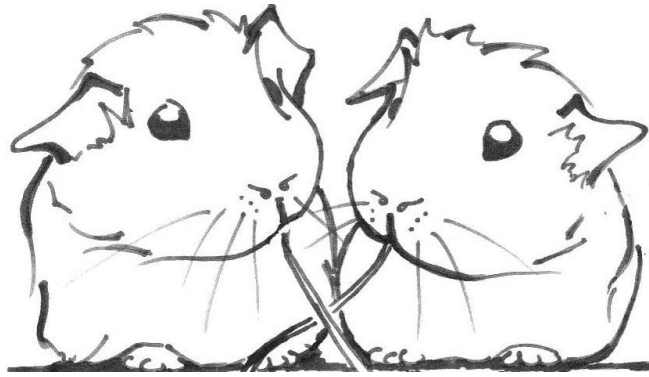
4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.
5. Reading and notating music.
8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.

PREP:

1. Print 5 pages (2 images to the page) of Guinea Pig Rhythms (or replace with which ever animal you have).
2. Cut each page in half.
3. Laminate or glue each half sheet to construction paper.
4. Place around classroom, spread out so that students have room to walk and work. I laminate the papers and lay them on the floor so that several students can work around each station.
5. For students in grades 2-3, I use big spaced staff paper. For older students I use regular spaced staff paper. Each student gets a whole sheet of staff paper.

PROCESS:

1. Give each student a staff paper (on a clipboard?) and a pencil.
2. Explain that they will walk around and use at least two words/rhythms (two beats each) from each Guinea Pig paper spread around the room.
3. After every 4 beats they will need to draw a bar line.
4. Under each 2 beat rhythm they will correctly spell and space out the words they chose.
5. When finished, each student will have 9 measures and draw a double bar line to complete their work.



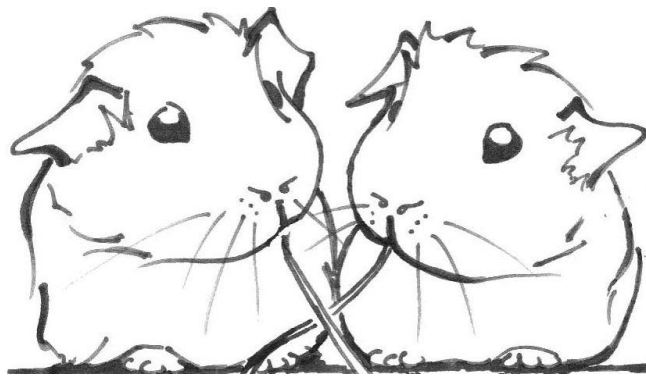
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Yummmmmm!

Yay!

Ooooooooooh!

Eeeeeeeew!



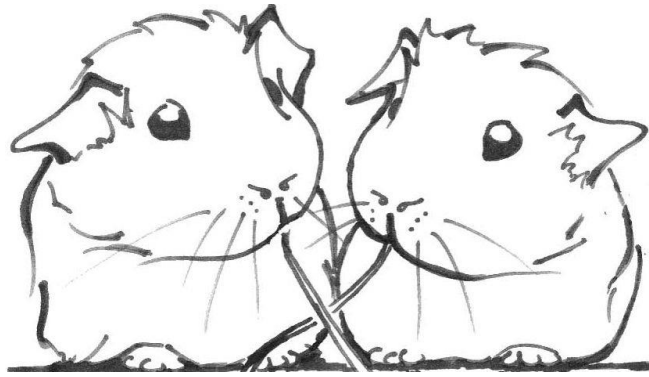
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Vegetables and greens

Broccoli, Peas

Cauliflower, squash

Baby Carrots, Thyme



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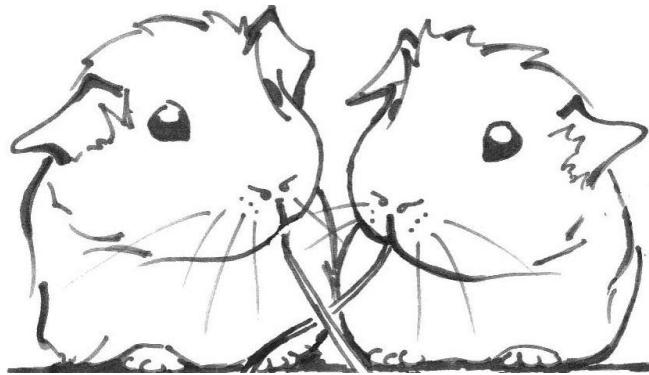
Chi-cor-y

Cucumber

Es-carole

Kiwi-fruit

Guinea Pig!



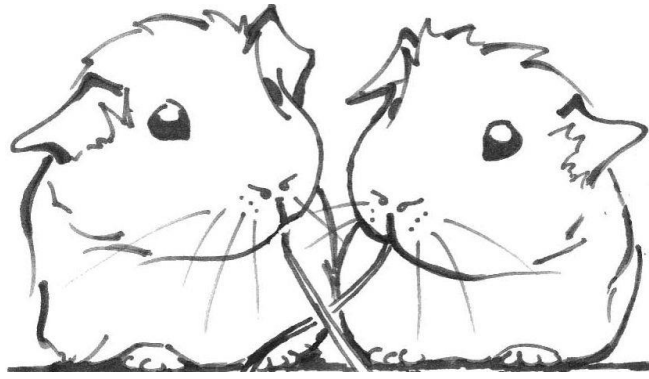
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Fresh

Hay

Orange

Grapes



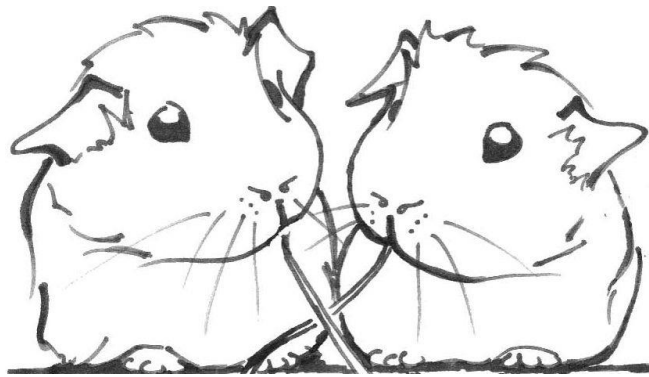
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Wa-ter

Carrots

Green Beans

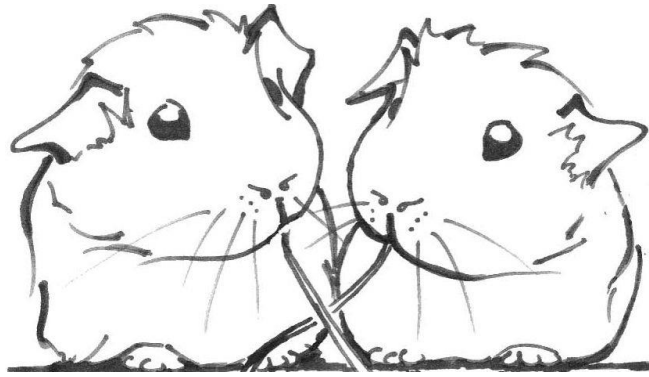
Lettuce



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Sweet Green Peppers

Fuzzy Kiwi



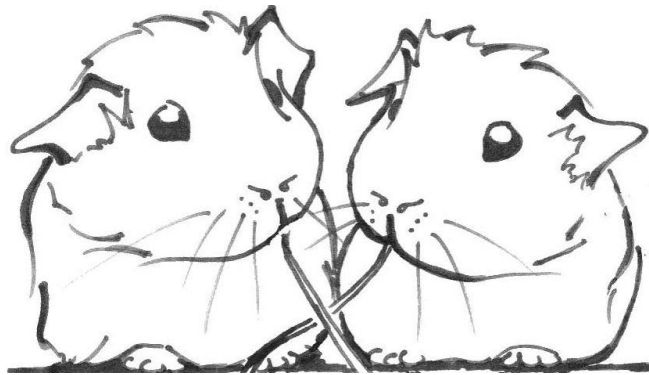
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Blue-berries

Cran-berries

Cu-cumber

Clean Water



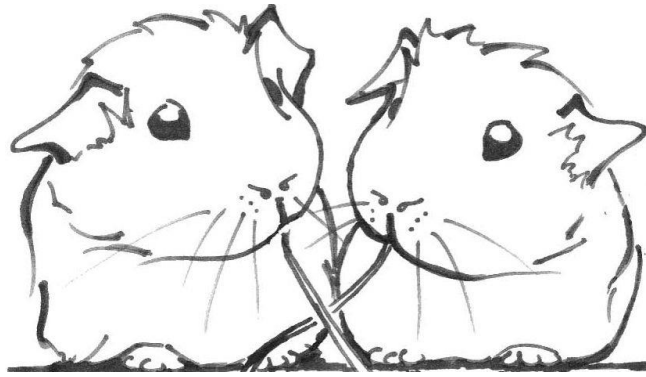
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Mango

Pumpkin

Turnips

Peppers



oa

Tim-o-thy Hay
Keep my cage clean!

Below is a short example of what a finished product may look like. For my 2nd-3rd graders, this is their first chance to use staff paper and I accept note stems in either direction, I focus on their ability to write the rhythm correctly only. For 4th -5th graders, this is a lesson that follows note reading, writing, rhythms and measure building. The SLO's I have written are for 2nd and 4th grade and focus on these rhythm skills.

Guin - ea Pig, Guin - ea Pig Yay! Eat! Eat! Ba-by carrots, Thyme, Es - car - ole,

Green Beans, Man - go, Blue - berr - ies, Cu - cum - bers, Tim - o thy Hay, YUM!!