SteveSongs

Pre-Concert Study Guide

WooHoo!

Hi, I'm Steve Roslonek of SteveSongs, aka Mr Steve from PBS Kids and I'm very excited about my upcoming school visits this year. Whether I will be presenting at your school or if you are just interested in using the information and resources below for your students, welcome. If you are interested in booking an event or cultural arts program, please contact Lori at lori_roslonek@yahoo.com or 617-851-8131.

The main goal of my school aged cultural arts programs is to connect with students and engage them in an interactive arts performance that informs while it entertains. This study guide will help introduce or review some of the topics that will be covered in the performance. Along with some term definitions and concept explanations you will also find numerous links to music videos. Some of the videos teach movements to the songs that we will be performing and are important to share with students before the visit, while others are included to watch for fun and to build excitement about the visit.

Please let me know if you have any trouble viewing the videos. We are always excited to hear feedback and suggestions from teachers, presenters and administrators about our content and process as we strive to continuously improve the effectiveness, ease and relevance of the program and prep materials. You can email me at talk2stevesongs@yahoo.com. Thanks! Steve

Science

- PreK-2nd grade science related songs will be
  - Matter
  - Spinning Round
- 3rd grade – 5th grade science related songs will be
  - Matter
  - The Water Cycle
  - Gravity

The next several pages will explain some facts about these scientific topics. During the performance, I will ask some basic questions about these topics before each song. The students don't need to have the facts memorized. My hope is that they will have some understanding of the concepts so that the songs better resonate and help to reinforce their cursory knowledge of each. Note: There is additional info about most of these topics, along with educational videos, on the Idaho Public TV website (www.idahoptv.org/sciencetrek).

Science

(PreK-2nd, 3rd – 5th grade)

Matter (Pre-K – 2nd grade, 3rd grade - 5th grade)

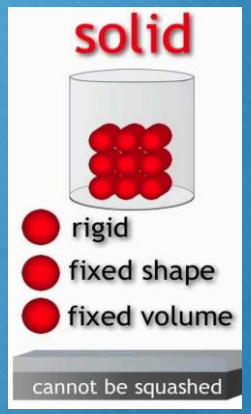
- Matter is anything that takes up space and has weight: a tree, a sandwich, water in a bucket, air in the sky – any object that you can think of consists of matter.
- What is matter made of? All matter is made of atoms. Atoms are the smallest particle of matter. They are so small that you can't see them with your eyes or even with a standard microscope. A piece of paper is about a million atoms thick!

Science

(PreK-2nd, 3rd – 5th grade)

3 States of Matter

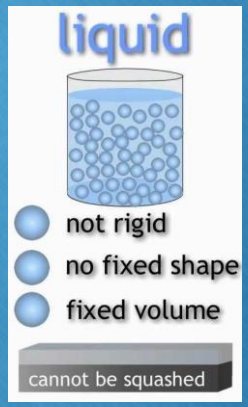
- There are primarily 3 different states of matter: Solids, Liquids and Gases*
- Solids: Matter that is made of atoms packed tightly together are solids. You cannot walk through a brick wall – the matter is packed so tight that it prevents you from moving through it. Solids hold their shape at room temperature.



* Technically there are other states of matter – such as plasma – but these 3 are the most common observable states on earth.

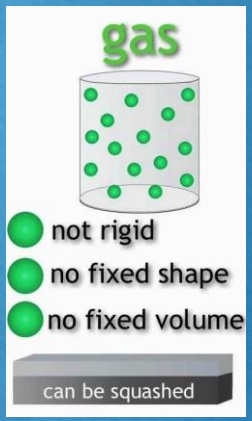
3 States of Matter

- Liquids: Liquids do NOT hold their shape at room temperature. There is space between the atoms of a liquid and they move slightly all the time. That's why you can stick your finger into water and easily pull it back out. Liquids flow or pour and take on the shape of the container they are in. Water poured into a rectangular pool will fill in the shape of that rectangle (or rectangular prism). Unlike a gas, if you pour a liquid into a cup it will 'stay put' in that cup and it will have a fixed volume.



3 States of Matter

- Gases: Like Liquids, Gases do NOT hold their shape at room temperature. But unlike liquids, they are always moving. Gases don't 'stay put'. There is so much space between the atoms in gas that you can move around them very easily. When you walk from one side of the room to the other you walk through a bunch of gases that make up our air. Gases don't have a fixed volume.

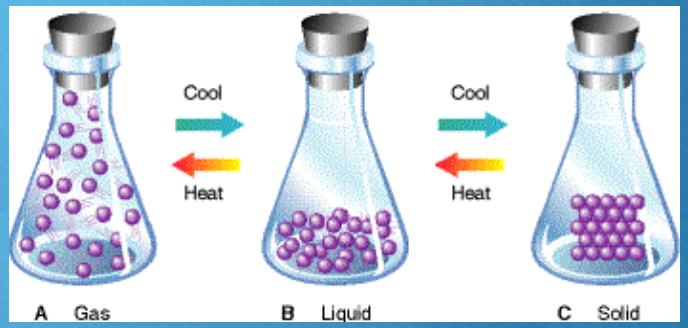


Science

(PreK-2nd, 3rd – 5th grade)

Change of State – Matter

- Matter can move from one state to another, but still be the same substance. For example, a solid can become a liquid, a liquid can become a gas. Water can be changed to a solid (ice) by lowering it's temperature (freezing it). And Water can be changed to a gas (water vapor) by raising it's temperature (heating it up). Think about steam rising from a boiling pot of water. That's a liquid changing into a gas.



*Note: Pressure can also effect changes in matter.

Science

(PreK-2nd, 3rd – 5th grade)

Matter lyrics

- You can stream the song "Matter" at this link.
  - www.stevesongs/content/Matter.mp3
- During the performance, I will teach the students their simple singing part – the words below in white.

Everything around us is **matter**
If you can touch or smell or see it then it's **matter**
Everything's in one of three states of **matter**
If it's solid, liquid or gas then it's matter!

Look at water, that's a liquid
But if you heat it up
It'll turn to gas in the form of steam and float out of your cup

But make that water cold instead and right before your eyes
It'll turn into a solid – the one that we call ice

Matter is all around us: Solid, Liquid and Gas
Everything's made out of matter
That's just a matter of fact, Oh

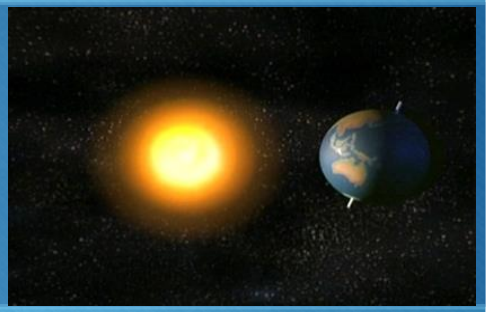
Everything around us is **matter**
If you can touch or smell or see it then it's **matter**
Everything's in one of three states of **matter**
If it's solid, liquid or gas - it's what makes the world matter!

Science

(PreK-2nd grade)

Spinning Around

(Pre-K – 2nd grade)



- Scientists like to ask questions about how our world and universe work (how fast does rain fall?, what makes clouds visible?, are vegetables healthy to eat?). They also like to try and answer those questions. Many times they'll think about a question or scientific phenomenon, research what other scientists have discovered or proven related to that question and then they'll try to come up with an answer or explanation. An explanation or idea like this is called a hypothesis. Once a hypothesis is formed, the scientist can then set out to try and prove that hypothesis and make it a part of scientific theory.

- Ask your students to try and answer the following questions and explain/discuss the scientific phenomenon:
  - Where does our Daylight come from?
  - Where does the Sun go at night?

  You can discuss that our daylight comes from the sun and the reason that we don't see the sun at night is because the planet on which we live, Earth, spins around. As we spin, half of the time we see the sun and half of the time we don't see the sun.

Science

(PreK-2nd grade)

Spinning Round Lyrics

- You can stream the song "Spinning Round" at this link.
  - www.stevesongs.com/content/Spinning_live_radio.mp3
- No prep is needed for this song before the performance

When you wake up in the morning look out and see that light shinning down on you and me
That's the sun up there everyone knows
But at night when the stars are shinning bright and there is no sun in sight
Do you know where it goes?

[CHORUS]
We're Spinning round, spinning around, spinning round, spinning around
Spinning round, spinning around, spinning round
Spinning round, spinning around, spinning around, spinning around
Spinning round, spinning around, spinning round

The sun stays in the same place but the earth spinning round only gets to face the sun half the time around
One rotation is a full day, 24 hours from dark to light that way, And we're always spinning around

[CHORUS]

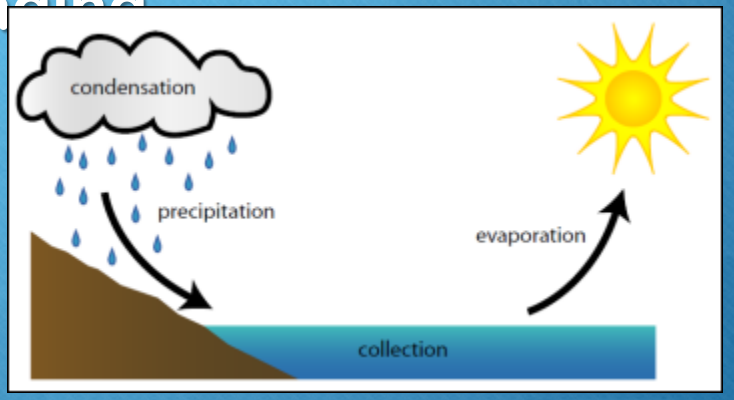
All the planets spin around, That makes the sun look like it's going down
It's enough to put us all in a tizzy
Everybody in the world is spinning around, Whirling in orbit up and down
But it never seems to make us dizzy

Science

(3rd grade – 5th grade)

The Water Cycle (3rd grade – 5th grade)

- The earth has a limited amount of water – In fact, the same amount of water that it had a million years ago. Water keeps recycling around and around in a closed system called the water cycle. It does this by changing its state.



Evaporation

- When the sun heats water in the ocean, rivers or puddles, some of the liquid water turns to water vapor in the air. Water vapor is a gas. This change of state from liquid to gas is called Evaporation.

Condensation

- As warm water vapor rises, it expands and cools and some of the water vapor (gas) changes back into little liquid droplets around tiny dust particles in the air. The process of a gas (water vapor) changing into a liquid (water droplet) is called Condensation. When billions of these water droplets come together they become a visible cloud.

Science

(3rd grade – 5th grade)

Precipitation and Collection

- When the drops of water grow big enough in the clouds they become too heavy and they fall back to earth as Precipitation.
- Precipitation in the form of rain, hail or snow falls to the earth and is Collected by the ocean, rivers, and ground. This completes the water cycle and starts the process all over again.

Science

(3rd grade – 5th grade)

Cloud Formations

- **Cumulus clouds** are white, puffy clouds that look like pieces of floating cotton or cauliflower. Cumulus clouds are often called "fair-weather clouds". The base of each cloud is flat and the top of each cloud has rounded towers.

- **Cirrus clouds** are the most common of the high clouds. They are composed of ice and are thin, wispy clouds blown in high winds into long streamers to resemble horse tails. Cirrus clouds are usually white and predict fair to pleasant weather.

- **Stratus clouds** are uniform grayish clouds that often cover the entire sky. They resemble fog that doesn't reach the ground. Light mist or drizzle sometimes falls out of these clouds.

Science

(3rd grade – 5th grade)

Water Cycle - Lyrics

- Please share this video (demonstrating the hand motions to the song) with your students.
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j8SCB_g98vg&feature=youtu.be
- Kids sing the words below in white

Verse 1
Water from a little puddle turns to gas… Evaporation
Gas forms into puffy clouds… Condensation
The clouds get heavy and the rain pours down… Precipitation

Oh the Water Cycle round and round,
Vapor goes up and the rain comes down,
Collecting in the rivers, in the ocean, and the ground,
It's all in a cycle going round and round

Verse 2
Some clouds look like a horses tail that's Cirrus… Cirrus
Some clouds look like cauliflower that's Cumulus… Cumulus
Some clouds look like a blanket of grey that's Stratus… Stratus

There are high clouds, low clouds and in between clouds
Fog on the ground is also where we've seen clouds Yeah, Yeah, Yeah!

Oh the Water Cycle round and round,
Vapor goes up and the rain comes down,
Collecting in the rivers, in the ocean, and the ground,
It's all in a cycle going round and round

Science

(3rd grade – 5th grade)

Gravity (3rd grade – 5th grade)

- You can listen to the song Gravity by following this link.
  - www.stevesongs.com/content/Gravity.mp3
- We will play this song for the 3rd – 5th graders. Most of the students probably already know that gravity is a force that pulls us down toward the earth and that Isaac Newton was credited with it's discovery. That's all they'll need to know in preparation for the game that we'll play with this song. Here's a bit more info about gravity:
- Gravity is a force of attraction between two objects. All objects with mass have gravity. Gravity acts like a magnet - pulling objects together. What causes gravity is not really known. The Earth has gravity. Gravity holds everything close to this planet. Trees, water, animals, buildings, and the air we breathe are all held here by gravity. All of the planets, the stars and the moons of the universe have gravity. Even our own bodies have gravity. The Earth's gravity is far stronger than our own so we don't notice the gravity our bodies possess.
- Gravity is affected by the size and proximity (closeness) of objects. The Earth and the moon have a stronger pull on each other than the Earth and another planet (for instance Jupiter) because the Earth and moon are closer to one another. Earth has a stronger pull on objects than the moon does because it is larger, so there is more pull on our bodies here on the Earth than there would be on astronauts who are on the moon. We don't actually "feel" gravity. We only feel the effects of trying to overcome it by jumping or when we fall.
- Sir Isaac Newton (1642- 1727) was a scientist who is credited with discovering gravity. You would think that gravity would be a well known concept since all of us have been aware of it since we were little kids dropping our spoons on the floor from our high chair just to make mom come and get it. But it wasn't until Newton published his ideas in a book in 1687 that the scientific world had gravity as a defined term. Newton is well known for his Three Laws of Motion which explain how the physical laws direct the motion of objects.

Literacy

- PReK-2nd grade literacy related songs will be
  - "Reading Rocks" – Please have your students view one of the linked videos to gain familiarity with some of the dance moves to this song. See the next page for links and more info.
  - "Bear Hunt" –no preparation required for this song - but please see its dedicated page for more info on how and why you might want to use this book/story/song in your classroom if you don't already.
  - "A is for Silly" – no preparation needed for this song.
- 3rd grade – 5th grade literacy related songs will be
  - "Reading Rocks" – Please have your students view one of the linked videos to gain familiarity with some of the dance moves to this song. See the next page for links and more info.
  - Harry Potter – no preparation required for this song. Song: www.stevesongs.com/content/HarryPotter.mp3
  - Soaring with Reading – no preparation required for this song. Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ht8YXNausEA
  - Shrinking People / Little Drops of Water – see page about metaphors.

Literacy

(PreK-2nd, 3rd – 5th grade)

Reading Rocks (Pre-K – 2nd grade, 3rd grade - 5th grade)

- Here's a fun energetic hip hop dance about reading that we can all do together. During the performance we'll only have a short time to demonstrate moves and since the song moves quickly it would be very helpful if your students were able to watch and learn the dance in advance (see the links below). K through 5th graders enjoy trying to mimic the dance moves along to the hip hop electronic beat. I originally wrote the song "Recess rocks" for an organization dedicated to combating the childhood obesity epidemic by helping to get kids moving in class while they learn and also during inside recess periods. I'm including the music video we did for Recess Rocks which is a fun one to watch and contains many of the same moves as the song "Reading Rocks"

- Video link to students dancing full song:

  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6aQ15qzyrs&feature=youtu.be

- Video link to Steve demonstrating dance moves:

  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZlqQIF2qSU

- Video link to Recess Rocks music video:

  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eO8FY-ccOJk

Literacy

(PreK-2nd grade)

Bear Hunt (Pre-K – 2nd grade)

- This is a song based on the folk tale and book "We're Going on a Bear Hunt". I have been performing this song for almost 10 years and am still amazed at how it captivates young listeners. The kids need no special prep for this song. Though if you have the book in your classroom and can read it to your students before our visit - that would tie in nicely. It is a classic story that resonates so well with PreK-2nd graders everywhere. It's also a great exercise for identifying patterns and sequencing. Simply put, the class goes searching for a bear, through tall grass, then through the river then through the mud and into a cave. When the bear is found and starts chasing them, they need to return back home in the reverse order, through the mud, river, then tall grass. Here is a link to me performing the song for some families in Orlando:
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_wiVhFgT3ok

Literacy

(3rd grade – 5th grade)

Metaphors (3rd grade – 5th grade)

- As a songwriter, I love being able to use different tools and techniques to tell a story and to paint a picture with words. A metaphor is one of those tools. It's a figure of speech that compares two things in an effort to help describe one of those things.
  - The football player was a monster. (he wasn't really a monster- but calling him a monster helps to describe the football player as a tough, strong, fierce player)
  - Her heart was broken. (her heart wasn't literally broken, she just felt hurt and sad)
  - "Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day" (in this sonnet, William Shakespeare compares his love to a summer's day. This metaphor is an example of an 'extended metaphor' because the comparison continues for a series of sentences – in this case the whole 14 line sonnet)

Metaphors – Activity

- Discussion activity: Read the following phrases with your students. What two things are being compared in each. How does the metaphor help describe?
  - You are my sunshine.
  - Her angry words were daggers in my heart. [Doesn't that sound better than "She said mean things and made me feel bad"]
- Read with your students the following 4 lines of the poem/song "Little Drops of Water". What two things are being compared? What is the message that the author is trying to convey by comparing these two things? Ask the students what it means to them?

Little drops of water and little grains of sand
Build the mighty ocean and the wondrous land
Little acts of kindness and little words of love,
Will build for us this world of peace that we've been dreaming of

Literacy

(3rd grade – 5th grade)

Metaphors – Shrinking People

- Lyrics to "Shrinking People". Chris and I will play this song in the assembly and ask the 3rd, 4th and 5th graders to listen to the lyrics and identify the metaphor. What 2 things are being compared?

Mama never did give advice against shrinking people
I guess it wasn't something she thought that she needed to say
So I spent my time trying to find ways to shrink people
But most of them just backfired in bigger and bigger ways

So let me be the one to advise you against shrinking people
If you've got a shrink ray keep it up on it's shelf
Cause when you spend your days trying to find ways to shrink people
You just end up getting smaller yourself

Music

- PReK-2nd grade music lessons
  - Brush, Brush, Brush – please share this video with your students so they are familiar with the song Brush Brush Brush. For the performance we will quickly review the song and hand motions, then use it to play our 'Audiation Game'
    - What is Audiation? Audiation is like singing something in your head. Audiation is to music as thought is to language. It takes a child from merely imitating the musical sounds around them to critically thinking, engaging in and creating new musical sounds. A student who audiates music has an easier time identifying and giving meaning to that music.
    - Link to instructional video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K5_2QjAPAKs
- 3rd grade – 5th grade music lessons
  - Count the Rhythm – no preparation is needed for this exercise.

Character Development

- PReK-2nd grade Character Development songs
  - Little Drops of Water – please have the students learn the simple dance moves to this song. See the next page for video links and lyrics.

- 3rd grade – 5th grade Character Development songs
  - Little Drops of Water – please have the students learn the simple dance moves to this song. See the next page for video links and lyrics.
  - Shrinking People – no preparation required for this song

Character Development

(PreK-2nd, 3rd – 5th grade)

Little Drops of Water-Lyrics

(Pre-K – 2nd grade, 3rd grade - 5th grade)

Video link: Full dance with classroom students https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ugjdUREFaQ&feature=youtu.be
Video link: Dance Instructions by Steve https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eae_zeVSbSA

Little Drops of water and little grains of sand
Build the mighty ocean and the wondrous land
Little acts of kindness
And little words of love
Will build for us this world of peace that we've been dreaming of

Every time you say hello
Every time you lend a hand
It will help your heart to grow
Sometimes it's the simple things that can

Every time you make a friend
Just by being honest and true
Is a time you build the friend up
Deep inside of you

We can all just live each day
Letting love lead the way
By treating one another as we would want to be
We'll open up our hearts and our eyes so we can see that

[Chorus]

Video Prep Summary

- PreK-2nd grade (listed in order of priority)
  - Little Drops of Water – please learn hand motions
  - Brush, Brush, Brush – please learn the singing and hand motions
  - Reading Rocks – please learn dance moves
- 3rd – 5th grade (listed in order of priority)
  - Reading Rocks – please learn dance moves
  - Water Cycle – please learn the hand motions
  - Little Drops of Water – please learn the hand motions and lyrics

Videos are available on youtube (links are included throughout this document) – but can also be provided on dropbox and will soon be streamable through the www.stevesongs.com website.