

Greek traditional playsong

Perna perna hē melissa
(Περνά περνά η μέλισσα)

Περνά περνά η μέλισσα, με τα μελισσόπουλα και με τα κλωσσόπουλα
Perna perna he Melissa, me ta melissopoula ke me ta klossopoula
The bee goes by – goes by, with the baby bees and the baby chicks

Musical goals:

4/4 meter
Pick-up meter.
Dotted eighth.
Breathing.
Articulation.
Sense of rhythm.

Teaching ideas:

Voice positioning. Perfect fourth interval.
Performance of the song with variations in dynamics; first *f* and then *p*.
Learning to perform the song on a melodic instrument like recorder, glockenspiel, boomwokers
The first group sings, while the second performs an ostinato on glockenspiel (e.g. G-D, on quarters).
Class in two groups; the first group claps during quarters, the second group claps on the eights and vice versa.
Performance the song in canon.
Reproduction of the sound of the bee on percussion instruments.
Familiarization with Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's "Flight of The Bumblebee" through audiovisual material.

Playing the playsong:

Learning and performing the traditional game "Perna-perna I melissa": Two children are chosen in the group after a counting-out game. The rest of the children step along the beat of the song on a row, and pass by the two leaders who stand face to face. The two leaders would choose a name for each group. Then they would clap hands alternatively (one clapping of their hands, one clapping of their co-leader hands) while singing the song. When the verse finishes they would caught the child that passes by with the last verse. They would ask the child "Do you prefer 'apple' or 'strawberry'?". The child goes behind the group leader, according to the group they chose. This must take place secretly, because the other children should not hear the names of the two groups. The playsong continues until all the children go behind one of the two leaders. Then the two leaders hold hands, the children behind hold their bodies, and they all pull towards their side. Winning group is the group who manages to pull the other group towards their side.

Perna perna hē melissa

Traditional



Perna perna i melissa

Perna - perna hē melissa
me ta melissopoula
kai me ta klōssopoula.

The bee goes by

The bee goes by - goes by
with the babay - bees
and the baby chicks.