

Lesson Plan (Guitar Lesson)

Student Age: 5 and up

Lesson 1: “Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy”

Objective: Focus on fingerpicking technique and articulation.

- **Listening Assignment:** Listen to “*Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy*” and observe the light, plucking sound.
 - **Activity:** Practice simple fingerpicking patterns on open strings, imitating the light, delicate sound.
 - **Guitar Practice:** Play a short melody on the high strings using fingerpicking.
 - **Creative Activity:** Draw a fairy while listening to the music and think about how the guitar mimics the sound.
 - **Wrap-up:** Discuss how the fingerpicking technique creates a light, magical feel.
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Lesson 2: “March”

Objective: Learn march rhythms and dynamic control.

- **Listening Assignment:** Listen to “*March*” and tap to the beat, identifying loud (forte) and soft (piano) sections.
 - **Activity:** Strum a strong down-up march rhythm in 4/4 time.
 - **Guitar Practice:** Alternate between strong strumming (forte) and light strumming (piano) while playing C and G chords.
 - **Wrap-up:** Discuss how dynamics and rhythm create the sense of a march.
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Lesson 3: “Waltz of the Flowers”

Objective: Introduce 3/4 time and smooth chord transitions.

- **Listening Assignment:** Listen to “*Waltz of the Flowers*” and focus on the 3/4 rhythm.
 - **Activity:** Practice smooth strumming in 3/4 time, focusing on the first beat of each measure.
 - **Guitar Practice:** Play a simple I-IV-V chord progression (C-F-G) in 3/4 time, emphasizing smooth transitions.
 - **Wrap-up:** Discuss how the waltz rhythm differs from other time signatures and how it creates a dance-like feel.
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Lesson 4: “Russian Dance (Trepak)”

Objective: Focus on speed and precision in fast strumming.

- **Listening Assignment:** Listen to “*Russian Dance*” and notice the fast tempo and strong accents.
 - **Activity:** Practice fast, controlled down-up strumming to match the energy of the piece.
 - **Guitar Practice:** Play quick strumming patterns on open strings, focusing on accuracy and rhythm.
 - **Wrap-up:** Discuss how fast tempos and strong accents create excitement in the music.
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Lesson 5: “Arabian Dance”

Objective: Explore legato playing and mood creation.

- **Listening Assignment:** Listen to “*Arabian Dance*” and discuss its slow, mysterious mood.
- **Activity:** Practice smooth, connected chord changes, focusing on sustaining notes.
- **Guitar Practice:** Play slow chord progressions (e.g., Am-Em-Dm) using legato strumming to create a flowing, connected sound.
- **Wrap-up:** Reflect on how smooth playing and slower tempos can create a mysterious atmosphere.

LISTENING ASSIGNMENT LIST

Dance of Sugar Plum Fairy:

[Instrumental]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFjveJ5sgeQ>

[Ballet Performance]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zV1qLYukTH8>

March:

[Instrumental]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9t1AeJm7XF0>

[Ballet Performance]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfCSIE2tQco>

Waltz of Flower:

[Instrumental]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zp1aDnVySf8>

[Ballet Performance]: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_NWdj8PCdYE

Russian Dance:

[Instrumental]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmQjhwsPRDE>

[Ballet Performance]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-qVbWI5TYg>

Arabian Dance:

[Instrumental]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQOBp9Ltbuo>

[Ballet Performance] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLNytVwZq1w>