

Question posted by a MG Teacher on Gartenloop (Sep 07)

What favorite activities should I choose to prepare for a Cycles of Seasons Demo Class ?

Reply from a MG Teacher :

When I'm doing something like a "demo class," I **choose to do activities** that I will be using during the **first class of the semester**. Here's are my reasons.

- 1. It is a wise use of my time, so that my prep time for the demo is also prep time for my first class session. We are paid for our time, unlike salespeople who are paid by the size of the order. We must use our time wisely.**
- 2. It forces me to be very creative and realistic about what the children and parents can and will be able to do the first time they participate in class with a specific song or dance.**
- 3. It allows families that enjoy the demo (who then register) to participate very fully in the first paid class and feel like "pros."**
- 4. Another hint: If you have some returning families, invite them to participate in the demo, as a "thank you" to them for their active participation. They will want to attend, for the children's sake, and they will be good models for the new parents who will attend the demo.**

I'm afraid if I told you my favorite activities for Cycles, they might fall flat, since you might not even like them. **Your enthusiasm and joy** in sharing the songs, chants and dances motivate the parents to share their joy and love. It's contagious!

Happy Teaching!

Carol Spencer, Fort Worth, Texas

Additional Comments by Musikgarten Malaysia:

- Be mindful of activities that may be sensitive from a cultural viewpoint. For example, in the demo class, the Chinese Community dislikes songs or activities relating to dying or death ("e.g. rooster is dead") – superstition.
- If there are Malays in the class, try not to use songs where pigs are featured.