



WHYTELEAFE CHORAL WORKSHOP

AGENDA :)

Workshop Focus:

Developing ensemble skills through listening, vocal technique, rhythm, harmony, and teamwork in a supportive and engaging choral environment.



By Anagi Gunasekera



1. Ice-breaker & Energiser Activities (10–15 minutes)

Purpose:

To build focus, group cohesion, rhythmic accuracy, coordination, imitation skills, and learning agility.

“4 Beats After Me” – call-and-response clapping

(listen, imitate, copy while processing new information)

Body percussion with vocalisation and movement

(boom, snap, claps, vocal syllables, forward/backward jumps)

• • Optional energiser (used anytime if focus drops):

Do–Re–Mi countdown (8–7–6–5–4–3–2–1)



2. Vocal Warm-Ups & Choral Technique (20–25 minutes)

Focus:

Rounded choral tone, breath support, projection, diction, listening, and coordination.

- Choral voice awareness:

- Horizontal vs vertical mouth shapes
- Singing with the throat vs singing with the whole body
- Diaphragm-supported breathing

“Making a Cake” Vocal Activity (multi-step):

- Scale singing
- Enunciation
- Lip rolls
- Rhythm listening (tick–tock / ticky–tocky / tickity–tockity)
- Breath control
- Jaw and mouth release



3. Listening-Based Activities (15–20 minutes)

Purpose:

To strengthen pitch matching, rhythmic awareness, musical memory, and ensemble responsiveness.

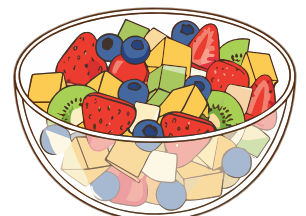
Fruit Salad Listening Game

(three tunes, instant recognition and singing back, dynamic and tempo changes)

Piano Follow-the-Leader (matching pitch, loud/soft, slow/fast)

Optional (time permitting):

Round singing – “I Love the Flowers” or “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”



Short Break / Reset (5 minutes)

Water break

Physical and vocal reset

- • Quick refocus before harmony work

4. Harmony-Based Activities (50–55 minutes total)

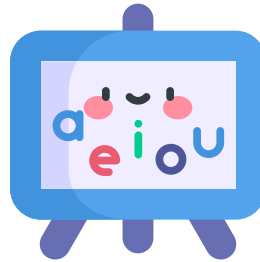
Harmony Activity 1 – English Vowel Harmony (5–7 minutes)

Activity:

Vowel sequence: Ma – Me – Mi – Mo

Focus:

- Introducing harmony awareness
- Blending vowel shapes
- Pitch accuracy
- Listening across parts



(This functions as a harmonic warm-up and transition into more complex work.)

Harmony Activity 2 – Sinhala Harmony Exercise (10–12 minutes)

Text: “Na Tham De Na”

Conceptual imagery:

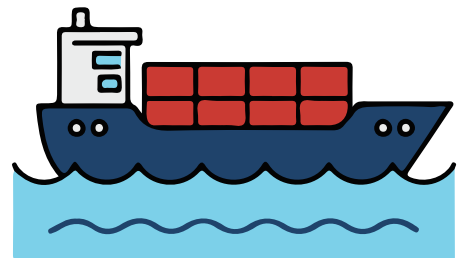
- Melody = the ship
- Harmony (“oohs”) = the sea
- The sea supports the ship without overpowering it

Focus:

- Balance between melody and harmony
- Listening within harmony
- Blending and pitch control

Pitch centres explored:

- E ♭
- G
- B ♭
- • Low G



Harmony Activity 3 – Contemporary Harmony (20–25 minutes)

(Longest and most detailed section)

Song excerpt: “I Can Be Brown, I Can Be Blue”

Focus:

Working with printed sheet music

Staying on individual vocal parts while other lines are present

Developing part confidence and independence

Marking musical elements (e.g. crescendos, phrasing)

Singing with accompaniment while maintaining blend and pitch



This section allows extended time for:

Repetition

Sectional clarification

Ensemble coordination

Musical decision-making

5. Wrap-Up & Reflection (5 minutes)

- **Brief group reflection on:**
 - **Listening**
 - **Teamwork**
 - **Ensemble sound**
- **Positive reinforcement of effort, focus, and collaboration**

Total Duration

Approximately 2 hours

Time summary (approx.):

- Ice-breakers: 10–15 min
- Vocal technique: 20–25 min
- Listening activities: 15–20 min
- Break: 5 min
- Harmony work: 50–55 min
 - Harmony 1: 5–7 min
 - Harmony 2: 10–12 min
 - Harmony 3: 20–25 min
- Wrap-up: 5 min