

ACTIVITY 9 THE INCLUSIVE ORCHESTRA

AIM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand and appreciate individual differences as essential elements for the creation of a rich and complete collective work. • To develop mutual listening and cooperation skills to achieve a common goal. • To encourage self-expression through the unique and unrepeatable contribution of every child
MATERIALS	<p>A selection of simple and diverse musical instruments (e.g., maracas, tambourines, triangles, rhythm sticks, kazoos, body percussion).</p> <p>Recycled materials for creating "unique" instruments (e.g., cans, rice, rubber bands, pasta) for those requiring specific sensory or motor experiences.</p> <p>Audio/video recorder or tablet to document the final performance.</p> <p>Open space for movement.</p>
PROCESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Discussion: Introduce the concept that an orchestra is rich because it is composed of very different sounds (each child is a unique sound, rhythm, or "note"). • Role Assignment: Each child or small group chooses or is assigned an instrument and a short musical module (specific rhythm or sound). The teacher ensures the task is suitable for each child's abilities and needs. <p>Example: Clara will play the triangle sound, Mark a steady hand clap, Luke a drum rhythm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice and Personalization: Children practice their "musical module" individually or in pairs, focusing on making their part distinctive and unique. • Inclusive Assembly: The teacher acts as the conductor, introducing the musical modules one at a time, in layers, until all children are playing simultaneously. Emphasize that if even one child stops, the piece is incomplete. • Performance and Celebration: Perform and record the full "Symphony of Friendship." Call each child, at the end, to take a bow for their essential part. • Reflection: Ask the children how they felt contributing their unique part and how the final result became better thanks to the diversity of all the sounds
DURATION	<p>2-3 sessions of 45 minutes each are recommended, spread over one week.</p> <p>The first session is dedicated to discussion and the creation/selection of musical modules; the following sessions are dedicated to group practice and the final performance.</p>
LEARNING OUTCOMES	<p>Children will:</p> <p>Develop empathy and awareness of the value of others' contributions, regardless of the form.</p> <p>Enhance active listening skills in a complex group setting.</p> <p>Express Themselves and their creativity safely, feeling essential to the final outcome.</p> <p>Understand diversity as a strength and not as an obstacle to creation.</p> <p>Strengthen the sense of belonging and community in the classroom through a shared experience.</p>