



Whole-class Ocarina-teaching...

School Ocarinas™

All Ocarina Workshop teaching materials referred to in this Guide are designed for use with Ocarina Workshop® UK-made plastic Rainbow Ocarinas™ known as Oc®.

Check that your ocarinas are the correct type. If they have more than four finger-holes on the top, are a different shape, or don't have the Oc® registered logo, then they are not designed for use in class.

Watching and Listening... Before giving out instruments – Play your ocarina to the group and talk together about how to play the ocarina:

What makes the ocarina produce a sound and play tunes? Breathe into the mouthpiece, and move your fingers to cover the four finger-holes on top of the ocarina. Identify finger-holes as distinct from mouthpiece, whistle-hole, string-hole and, in the case of 6-hole ocarinas, the thumb-holes.

Which fingers are used to cover the holes? Move the first two fingers of each hand in the air, without moving any other fingers or thumbs. Identify which are first and second fingers and left and right hands! Show that it is important to cover each finger-hole completely, so no air can escape.

Practise breath control. Ask everyone to blow hard on their hands; then breathe gently on them. Compare the 'breath' with the 'blow'. Demonstrate that a cold hard 'blow' into an ocarina will produce no musical sound; a warm gentle breath results in a strong, warm, musical note.

Why are ocarinas worn around the neck? Keep your ocarina safe, learn care of musical instruments. When you play your ocarina: 1) Put it round your neck. 2) Breathe into the mouthpiece to make a warm sound. 3) Experiment by covering different combinations of holes to make bird noises.

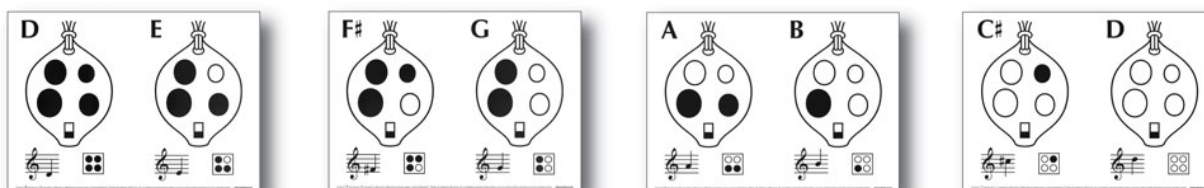
Stop! The word 'stop' means 'take the ocarina out of your mouth and look at me'. Give out the ocarinas: follow points 1 to 3 above individually. Then make bird noises together, stop and start together. The group should act together for maximum success and know what 'no ocarinas' sound like!

Learning the notes... Cover the holes firmly to play each note; learn to read the charts; play the notes in a row for the scale of 'D' major:

Describe how to play each note, and play them together just by watching, listening, following the instructions and copying...

- 1) Play the ocarina with all the holes open like this (demonstrate high 'D' as shown in the chart on the right below).
- 2) Cover all 4 holes with your fingers and breathe gently into the ocarina to play a low note. Encourage Players to listen to the sound and to 'tune in'.
- 3) Press your left fingers over the two left holes and play 'C'. Make sure that no air is escaping from the holes.
- 4) Cover the two holes nearest your mouth with first finger on your left hand and first finger on your right and play 'A'.
- 5) Play the note 'A' again. Keep playing and lift your right finger up, put it down, up, down, up, down... to make a siren sound (A B A B A B).

Now use page 4 in Book 1, Ocarina Workshop Flashcards or project the 'Teaching with the Ocarina – First Notes' screen from the CD-Rom:



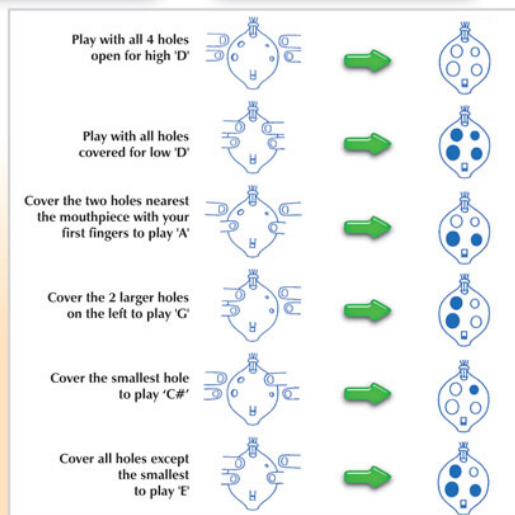
6) Compare the Oc-pix™ fingercharts with your ocarina. Look carefully to work out *Which is the mouthpiece and which the string-end? Why are some of the holes coloured in?* Coloured-in holes are the ones to cover; the others are 'O' for Open.

7) Recap the notes already played, this time reading from the charts: High D' (all open), low D (all covered), G (left holes covered), A and B.

8) Look together at the picture of C sharp and work out which hole to cover. Ask players to work in pairs with neighbours, to check they are each covering just the smallest hole, and the hole is completely covered. Choose one child to play to the class and ask the others to 'tune in' with the same note. Encourage careful listening.

9) Now ask the children to play with all holes covered for low D and lift their finger off the smallest hole to play E. Walk the right hand fingers to play from E to F# and back. Keep the left holes covered and practise walking the right hand fingers.

10) Now look at the first 4 notes at the bottom of page 4, show Flashcards in order as above, or read from the CD-Rom screen. Play together slowly: 'and D and E and F# and G' to play Four-in-a-row. Now try again to play Eight-in-a-row... 'and D and E and F# and G and A and B and C# and D'! **This is the scale of D Major.**



Play Your Ocarina Book 1: First tunes

Once you have played the scale of notes together, you are ready to teach the class to play tunes:

Ask the children to listen carefully and put up their hand as soon as they think they recognise which tune you are playing: Play just the first 4 notes of **Twinkle twinkle**. Some may guess 'Baa baa black sheep' which is also correct for the first 4 notes. Now teach everyone to play the first line: point to the first seven notes using both sides of a single Flashcard: D D A A B B A – each note is played twice until you reach the last one, which is longer.



Twinkle, twinkle little star - Book 1, page 5

Now try playing the whole tune. Ask everyone to practise by themselves. This will make a terrific noise! (You may need to remind them in advance to listen for your instruction to 'stop'!) Play the tune together slowly. Keep everyone in step by counting in steadily at the beginning (4 beats: 1234) so everyone starts together. It may also be helpful to clap or sing along with them, or simply call out the number of the line as they reach each one. If your group need to gain confidence, practise the first three lines, one line at a time very slowly. Once they can all play the whole tune through slowly, play it through again slightly quicker each time. Soon they will be ready to 'perform' with CD backing. If you can accompany on piano, guitar or other instruments or by half the class singing whilst the other half play, it is still helpful to choose a slower pace in the early stages. The **Rehearsal Track** on the CD-Rom does this for you, and also provides gentle steps up to the full performance speed. Each line begins with three pairs of repeated notes. Tongue gently to separate them. The final note on each line should last for two beats. Hold on to them just long enough to allow for a quick breath, so you are ready to play the next line of the tune.

Kumbaya - Book 1, page 6

First sing **Kumbaya** together so that everyone becomes familiar with the music. When everyone knows the song well, ask your group to mime the tune by holding the ocarina away from their mouths a little and moving their fingers according to the charts. This can be done whilst the leader sings Kumbaya quite slowly, whilst everyone sings or whilst you play the CD or CD-Rom. Again, for your first attempt at playing together, set a slowish pace. Beware of the last line as the second word covers two musical notes. Keep the sound beautifully smooth, with long phrases and gentle tonguing of the repeated 'A' (third note onwards). Check that everyone plays 'A' with first fingers covering the two holes nearest the mouthpiece. Encourage players to count 1 2 3 4 (in their heads!) as the last note of each line is played for four beats. Leave just enough time to breathe before beginning the next line.

Try other tunes notated in Oc-pix - Book 1 pages 8, 9, 10 and the Quiz

Rather than playing **London's Burning** as a round straight away, choose different groups to repeat the same line four times over - that way everyone will enjoy the harmony and be able to get to grips with a line at a time! Build this up gradually until the whole tune becomes easy. Try this approach with **Frère Jacques** too. The note patterns can be introduced using flashcards, line by line. Don't be afraid to move on to other tunes from later in the book, and return to these rounds as confidence grows. Practise makes perfect so be patient and give plenty of praise for early efforts. Try **Yankee Doodle** and the **Quiz** for fun.

New Notation: Oc-box - Book 1, Inside Cover and page 11

Play the scale of notes reading Oc-Pix™ and then play the scale from Oc-box™. Compare the notes A and B in pictures and boxes. Imagine that the mouthpiece and string are on the boxes. Which ends are they? Look at C# and notice that each hole is now shown as equal in size. Play the scale of notes again following the Oc-box on page 11, to remind you where to put your fingers.

Tonguing When you use your tongue to start a note, it is called 'tonguing'.

To practise tonguing, play a single long note and whisper 'doo doo doo' as you breathe into the ocarina. Your tongue stops and starts the sound. The tune **Old MacDonald** on page 12 of Book 1 shows why learning to tongue is important:

1. Sing together: "Here a moo, there a moo, everywhere a moo, moo"
2. Sing this again to 'doo': "doo doo doo, doo doo doo, doo doo doo doo doo, doo"
3. Now whisper the rhythm "doo doo doo, doo doo doo, doo doo doo doo doo, doo"
4. Play a long single note G with left holes covered and right holes open:
5. Now play this same note G on a long breath whilst whispering the rhythm "doo doo doo, doo doo doo, doo doo doo doo doo, doo"

Old MacDonald - Book 1, page 12

You should now be ready to play **Old MacDonald**, as you have already played the fourth line. If you forget to use your tongue, the whole line becomes just one long note! Go straight from the end of **Old MacDonald** to the beginning of **Jingle Bells** without a break. Use the CD to accompany your performances as you get more confident in playing.

Jingle Bells- Book 1, page 13

Listen to the 'dotted' rhythm as you sing: 'jingle all the way' and 'oh what fun it is'. Play these phrases and rhythms on a single note at first and then follow the finger-charts until you can play the whole line accurately. Keep your tonguing crisp and clear, especially when you play the short notes for 'on a...'. Enjoy the fun of this tune and make sure you perform it at Christmas too.

Au Clair de la Lune - Book 1, page 15; Little Bird - Book 1, page 17

Musical Notation - As your children learn to play lots of tunes, they will begin to see how the **musical staff** works like a ladder and learn to recognise note positions. This will help them to read music with ease when they are ready. Musical notes for high sounds appear near the top of the staff and for low sounds are near, or even below, the bottom line. For names of notes, refer to the inside back cover of 'Play your Ocarina' books. Which ocarina fingerings produce the highest and lowest notes?

Rhythm - Listen to the audio CD and spot the lengths of notes; some last longer than others. The space between charts shows how quickly one note follows another. Count during the introductions on the CD-Rom. As a game, tongue the rhythm of any tune on a single note and see if others can guess the name of the tune by its rhythm.

Play **Au Clair de la Lune** and **Little Bird** on the CD and sing along together, so that everyone becomes familiar with both tunes. Practise individually first and then play together. These tunes may be played as a medley, going straight from one to the other. Look at the pattern of notes on the staff in **Au Clair**: single beat notes (first bar), longer two beat notes (second bar) and four beat notes (fourth bar). Hold each note on for its full count. When you play the first note, high 'D', in **Little Bird**, balance your ocarina by resting your third and fourth fingers above and below the finger-rest at the string-end. Spot the short and long notes in this tune; the rhythm begins: 'short short long, short short long'.



Additional Ocarina-teaching Resources...

Ocarina-teaching CD-Rom: **Play your Ocarina Book 1**

All 22 tunes in Book 1 can be introduced and practised using the unique PC software from Ocarina Workshop. The **animated ocarina**, with moving fingers, gives a 'players-eye' view for all to follow. Ocarina fingercharts, notes and lyrics light up on screen in time with the music, keeping everyone together. When 5 year olds find it a bit too fast to play along with, just choose a slower backing. And when your 11 year olds think it's a doddle, select a more advanced display to see who can follow the musical notation, just like professionals!

Each tune has **Four Music Views** as follows: Oc-pix and words only; Oc-pix, musical stave and words; Oc-box, musical stave and words; and musical stave only. You can also choose from **Four Different Backings** at three different speeds; listen to the ocarina by itself or play along with piano, band and orchestral backings only: the combinations and possibilities are endless. Comprehensive Set Up and **Teaching Tips** are given in the handy 16-page Guide and On-Screen.

Ocarina-teaching: **Flashcards**

This set of high quality PVC charts from Ocarina Workshop shows the full scale of 'D' major for 4-hole Oc and is recommended for teaching first notes. Players of 6-hole Oc or Ocarina Workshop ceramic ocarinas should keep both thumb-holes closed for the first seven notes and then open the smallest (left) thumb-hole in order to play high 'D' in tune. The full range of ocarina notes for 4-hole and 6-hole ocarinas are featured inside the back covers of 'Play your Ocarina' Books 2, 3, 4, Carols and Songs of Praise.

Use Flashcards whenever you need to draw the group together for a reminder of the basic notes. They should be able to play from memory after a few weeks, so hold up 'imaginary' or 'invisible' flashcards to see if they can remember the pattern of notes for the scale of 'D'.

You may also like to practise playing down a scale. Point to the charts in reverse order from top 'D' backwards. Passages with downward running scales are in Book 2: 'Barges' (page 8) and 'Can, Can' (page 16) and can be usefully practised in advance by using Flashcards.

Book 1, 2, 3, 4 Carols and Songs of Praise: **CD-Editions**

The audio CDs have Performance tracks to accompany all the tunes in Books 1, 2, 3, 4, Ocarina Carols and Songs of Praise. These will add a sense of style, pace and occasion to your performances and broaden your children's repertoire. Listen to each tune and encourage everyone to sing along to get to know the tunes really well. Miming is a great way to practise. As you listen to the music playing, follow the notes in the book or on screen by just moving your fingers over the correct ocarina holes. Remind the children not to blow when they mime! It is also good to practise what 'no ocarinas' sound like. Each CD also has Backing tracks, which can be used to accompany your group's own ocarina playing.

Additional Teaching Tips...

The CD-Rom Guide has extensive teaching tips and instruction on how to use the Ocarina-Teaching Software and these can be projected for easy viewing for whole classes to play together. Ideas for first lessons and warm-ups are included with screens of supporting materials.

Starting each lesson: **Here are a few things to think about**

At the beginning of any session, warm up with familiar tunes and games. Warm-up games can be projected from the CD-Rom for whole-classes. Use these ideas to make up your own musical games. Start lessons with something the children play well and enjoy in order to practise making a pleasing individual and group sound, playing with a warm, controlled breath. Try to establish tonguing, slurring and phrasing as early as possible.

Choosing what to play and when: **Start with the easiest tunes**

Listen to the 'Performance Track' of new tunes on the Software or audio CD and sing, mime, then play along. The CD-Rom will enable ocarina players to move with ease from Oc-pix™ to Oc-box™, and then on to staff notation. Always choose to play along with the 'Rehearsal Track' first. As you listen to the introduction, watch the numbers as they light up. Then count-in to your first note and make sure that everyone is ready to begin. (Tip: The animated ocarina shows which holes to cover to play the first note – be ready!)

When not using the CD-Rom, you could ask a reliable soloist to play either the first or the last line of the tune as an introduction. This establishes the tempo, helping the group to come in together on the first note without anyone having to count them in.

Developing performances: **Group and harmony playing**

Your first opportunity for playing in harmony on ocarinas will be the first two rounds in Book 1. **London's Burning**, page 8 and **Frère Jacques**, page 9. Once everyone can play these well, divide the class into four groups and ask each to start in turn, playing from the beginning of the tune once the previous groups have reached the end of their line. Book 2, Carols and Songs of Praise offer many opportunities to add tunes with simple harmonies to your group's repertoire. Book 3 is full of ready-made 2-part arrangements for groups of 'D' ocarinas playing together: Add 6-hole Oc® and ceramic Alto, Mini and Bass Ocarinas for variety and a richness of sound.

Guitar chords for each tune can be used for establishing chord patterns to accompany with keyboard, chime bars and such string instruments as violin, ukelele and guitar. Recorder and other melody instruments can also play from Play your Ocarina music books. Enjoy listening to individuals and groups performing – maybe some children would like to prepare something at home from the other books.

Caring for your Ocarinas: **Shared and Individual ocarinas**

Remember that ocarinas need sterilising when used by more than one person. Follow the instructions on any brand of liquid suitable for sterilising household utensils or baby equipment. If you totally immerse your ocarinas, do remember to remove the string first. Carefully rinse and then dry, wiping any liquid away from finger-holes and whistle-hole. Ideally, each player should have their own Alto ocarina (plastic or ceramic) and Book 1. Read page 14 of 'Play your ocarina' Book 1 for common sense points regarding care of instruments and of those playing them.

We wish you and your class every success in playing ocarinas together. Please do let us know how you all get on. If you are interested in inviting Ocarina Workshop to train class teachers in your area, or to stage a celebratory Ocarina Festival for children from several schools, then please get in touch with David and Christa Liggins to discuss possibilities. These workshops for children and teachers are highly acclaimed with good reviews.





Ocarina Workshop® Products – a Quick Guide

Which Ocarina? The 4-hole Oc® from Ocarina Workshop is the recommended starting point for most beginners as it is easily handled by children and adults. UK-made to the highest standards, the sound and tuning are excellent, even when played by beginners in large groups. And, from a teacher's point of view, it is easy to see exactly which children are playing the notes correctly, as there are no hidden thumb-holes to worry about!

All the notes on the Oc are equally easy to play. The 22 tunes in 'Play your Ocarina' Book 1 introduce confident and fluent melody-playing through familiar tunes, using 11 of the 14 notes on the 4-hole Oc. Start simply, and you'll soon all play like professionals! The CD-Rom of Book 1 has the additional benefit of four different screen views for each tune, and four graded backings to play-along with at varying speeds. This adds variety and pace to your lessons.

The thumb-holes on the 6-hole Oc® give four extra notes and remain closed throughout Books 1 and 2. The new notes introduced at the end of Book 2 are practised throughout Books 3 and 4. **Mini, Alto and Bass Ceramic Ocarinas** from Ocarina Workshop® all have 6-holes, and are tuned to 'D'. Add richness to the sound of your group by adding a tiny Mini or a deep Bass. The Alto is the same pitch as the Oc and has a beautiful tone. Full details at www.ocarina.co.uk.

Ocarina Rainbow Starter Boxes™ can be filled with whichever Oc and books are suitable for your classes – just let us know what you need and we will do the rest. Some schools play through a different 'Play your Ocarina' book with each year-group, others like to have class sets of every title. If your children all have their own ocarina and books, then you may still choose to order Starter Boxes as a safe place for them to be stored in class.

Which Book? All Ocarina Workshop Books are prepared for day-to-day use in the classroom. Written with children and class teachers in mind, these books are clear, fun and accessible to all. Unique Oc-pix™ and Oc-box™ underneath each musical note guide even the least confident musical learners, page-by-page, for individual or group ocarina-learning. Each hour-long CD introduces any less well-known tunes and provides a range of lively accompaniments appropriate to each tune. The content lists below give the character and feel of each book and CD:



All 'Play your Ocarina' books have 32 pages, 22 or more tunes with Oc-box™ fingercharts, guitar chords, words to songs, musical stave and optional 60 minute play-a-long audio CD. The CD-Rom Software for projection for Whole Class Music lessons is available for Book 1 only:

Book 1 'Starting off' is the essential starting-point for first-time players. The 22 well-known tunes allow rapid progression in melody-playing.

Book 1:	Little bird; Muffin man
Twinkle, twinkle	Bobby Shaftoe
Kumbaya	Oh Susanna
Frère Jacques	Camptown races
London's burning	All things bright & beautiful
Yankee Doodle	Pastoral; Plaisir d'amour
Old Macdonald	New world; Ode to joy
Jingle bells, Quiz	"Daisy, Daisy"
Hot cross buns	Skye boat song
Au clair de la lune	Goodnight ladies



Book 2 'Moving on' shows how to play even more notes on both 4- and 6-hole Oc. Folk songs and dance tunes from all around the world for your 4-hole Oc® follow on perfectly from Book 1. Play the 'Can Can', 'Greensleeves', 'Grandfather's Clock', and a host of other great tunes.

Book 2:	The cuckoo
Greensleeves	Tallis' canon
Home on the range	Muss i'denn
Barges; Gypsy rover	Skip to my Lou
Cockles and mussels	Sing a little song
Maitre de la maison	National anthem
Floral dance	Auld lang syne
Shepherd's hey	Black eyes
Can Can	Spring song
Wedding marches	Grandfather's clock
Chopsticks	He's a jolly good fellow



Book 3 'Going for it' has every style from folk to classical and even rock and roll! Develop your group with these arrangements, which are suitable for playing in unison and in two-part harmony. The second parts are mainly for 4-hole Oc; some use the extra notes of the 6-hole Oc as well.

Book 3:	Summer is icumen in
Morning has broken	British grenadiers
When a knight	Parson's farewell
Country gardens	Cradle song
Beautiful dreamer	Chorale
Stars & stripes forever	Land of hope and glory
Yellow bird	Air; The Trout
Thine be the glory	Month of maying
We shall not be moved	A policeman's lot
Blue bells of Scotland	Rock around the 'oc'
Sally gardens	Endings



Book 4 'Finishing touches' shows off jigs and reels, dance rhythms from Latin America and ragtime by Scott Joplin, along with popular classics by Elgar, Mozart and Beethoven; 22 fabulous pieces to add finesse and extend your repertoire. A 6-hole Oc is recommended for this book.

Book 4:	La mariposa
Portsmouth	Flor de Santa Cruz
In dulci jubilo	The Entertainer
Patapan	Minuet and trio
Hava nagila	Salut d'amour
La cucuracha	Romance
Mango walk	Blue Danube Waltz
Mexican hat dance	Die Fledermaus
Canarios	Two jigs; Two reels
Willow, tit-willow	Tamborin
Eine kleine Nachtmusik	Minuet in 'G'

Songs of Praise: Give me oil in my lamp; Colours of day; One more step; The wise man built his house; Kumbaya; Praise him, praise him; Thank you for my friends; When I needed a neighbour; Make me a channel of your peace; Lord of the dance; See him lying on a bed of straw; Little donkey; Autumn Days; Cauliflowers fluffy; Who built the ark?; He's got the whole world; Think of a world without any flowers; Who put the colours in the rainbow?; If I were a butterfly; Now the green blade rises; Peace is flowing like a river; I've got a body, a very busy body.



'Play Your Ocarina' Complete Guide has the complete contents of each of Books 1, 2, 3, and 4 in one handy volume. This massive 128 page volume is available on its own and also with four CDs for four hours of non-stop music-making. Check www.ocarina.co.uk for latest prices and news.



Songs of Praise and Carols have tunes at all levels, suitable for all ages and stages of playing. Dip into these throughout the year. Class sets are a must!



Carols: Good King Wenceslas; See, amid the winter's snow; O come, all ye faithful; Once in royal David's city; Silent night; First Nowell; Jingle bells; I saw three ships; We three kings; Hark! The herald angels sing; God rest you merry gentlemen; In the bleak mid-winter; O little town of Bethlehem; Away in a manger; It came upon a midnight clear; Angels from the realms of glory; Ding dong merrily on high; While shepherds watched; Mary had a baby; Boar's head carol; Deck the hall; As with gladness; Joy to the world; The holly and the ivy; Gloucestershire wassail; We wish you a Merry Christmas.

Place your order securely through our Online Shop at www.ocarina.co.uk or email sales@ocarina.co.uk or contact David & Christa Liggins at Ocarina Workshop

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