

# What's in the Bag?

## Using Gadgets and Props to Develop Singing Skills

Presentation by Teresa Granger M.M.Ed



### 1. Why use gadgets and props to teaching singing skills?

- Re-think our teaching methods
- Allows the teacher to be creative
- Gets the attention of the singers
- Makes your rehearsal room or classroom inventive and energetic

### 2. Where do you get these items?

- Grocery store
- Stores like Dollar Tree, Target, etc.
- Donations
- Wish lists
- Grants
- Ordinary stuff (kitchen items, garage sales, etc.)

### 3. What are the benefits of using props and gadgets to teach singing skills?

- Develops the self- awareness of the singers
- Increases rehearsal productivity
- Frame of reference for the singer
- Makes singing and learning enjoyable
- Keeps your singers interested and engaged

#### 4. Sample Activities with props.

- Cookie- singing position north-south
- Marshmallow- diction, enunciation
- Slinky- dynamics and phrasing
- Straws/ Pipe Cleaners- breathing and vocal warm-ups
- Flashlights- phrasing, melodic movement
- Stickers- reminder to use head voice
- Hershey's Kisses- head voice, enunciation
- Jolly Ranchers/Tootsie Rolls- vowel placement
- Consonant Catcher- focus on crisp consonants

#### 5. SUPER SINGER KIT- developed by Teresa Granger

- I use this kit each fall to teach the kids the things I expect them to remember as a member of the children's choir.
- Things needed to make the kit: Zip-Lock Bags, Airheads, Smarties, Hershey's Kisses, Lifesavers, erasers, pencils, Peppermint candy





## Resource List

- 1. Gadgets for Great Singing**  
**by Christy Eisner**  
Shawnee Press and Hal Leonard Corporation HL 35029033  
[www.shawneepress.com](http://www.shawneepress.com)
- 2. First Steps to Vocal Development**  
**by John M. Feierabend**  
GIA Publications G-6400
- 3. 120 Singing Games and Dances for Elementary School**  
**by Lois Choksy and David Brummitt**  
Prentice Hall, Inc. ISBN 0-13-635038-0
- 4. One, Two, Echo Me**  
**By Loretta Mitchell**  
Heritage Music Press ISBN 0-89328-157-3 [www.lorenz.com](http://www.lorenz.com)
- 5. Sing Together Children**  
**By Madeline Bridges**  
Choristers Guild CGBK66 [www.choristersguild.org](http://www.choristersguild.org)
- 6. The Perfect Blend**  
**By Timothy Seelig**  
Shawnee Press ISBN 1-59235-094-1 [www.shawneepress.com](http://www.shawneepress.com)

### **Growing in Grace Children's Choir Curriculum, Be Strong in the Lord Fall 2016**

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