## Story of Molly and Tenbrooks: illustrated with banjo music

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## Content Outline:

Audience: All grade levels

Length: Flexible

Objective: Students will learn how a story can be illustrated using banjo music

Curriculum Standards: 9.2 describe music from various cultures and 9.2.3 discuss the distinguishing characteristics of / and the instruments used in music of selected cultures

Method of Instruction: Explain and demonstrate banjo techniques, storytelling and music performance

Instruments Used: (2) Banjos, Steel String Acoustic Guitar, Mandolin, Voice

Story: Molly and Tenbrooks

Songs: Molly and Tenbrooks

 Camptown Races

 Rocky Top

Banjo Instrumentals: Whoa Mule (slides represent mule kicking, head taps represent running)

 El Cumbanchero (tempo change represents going up/down mountain, high lyrical noting represents drinking water)

 Call To The Post (formal fanfare represents coming to attention)

 Bugle Call Rag (harmonics sound like bugle call)

 Foggy Mountain Breakdown (fast tempo represents racing horse)

Banjo Techniques: Explain and demonstrate

harmonic

slide

hammer on

pull off

bend

Assessment: Ask for response to various musical examples.

 What geography does it portray? How?

 What animal does it depict? How?

 What weather does it illustrate? How?

* talk briefly about Kentucky (my home state), Bill Monroe and horse racing

 Kentucky area contains Limestone?

 grass grows blue?

 horses diet?

Horse racing - interesting things

 basketball not invented yet

30,000 spectators etc.

 Bill Monore from western kentucky

 influenced by stringboard music, blues, gospel, irish music

 recorded Molly and Tenbrooks in 1947

* my main demonstration: tell about the story of the legendary Kentucky horse race between "Molly and

Tenbrooks"

 illustrate story with banjo music

(Arts Curriculum and Arts Integration):