

Notes for Christmas Jam (obviously change words to suit different times of year)

Use for ensemble, dynamics, following visual clues, taking responsibility for a part, leadership.

- Teach parts aurally
- Using clear visual signals, start and stop layers, building up to all at once, or just having one or two playing.
- Using another gesture, repeat above, but also indicate whether a layer should be played quietly or loud.
- Ask a student to direct

Christmas Jam

Fath er Christ mas is stuck up the chim ney
Christ mas pudd ing
Pre sents un der neath the tree
Snow flakes snow flakes

Circassian Circle (for pulse, co-ordination and phrase structure – 4 bars/8 bars/16 bars)

Partners hold hand in circle. Denote As and Bs – first person A, second person B etc, round circle

First 8 bars of music (A section)

Everyone 4 steps in, 4 steps out. Repeat.

Second 8 bars (A section repeated)

'A' people step in to circle – 1, 2, 3, clap, then back to their place

'B' people step in to circle – 1, 2, 3, clap, then back to a new partner – the one on the left of their old partner as they face them

Third 8 bars (– new material – B section)

Swing new partner (16 beats), ending up with 'A' people on the inside

Fourth 8 bars (B section repeated)

Promenade (16 beats) anti-clockwise and finish by getting back in to a circle, with the 'A' person on the left of the right, ready to start again

