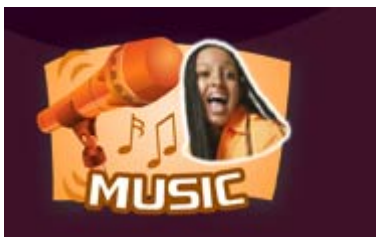


# LESSON PLAN

## Compose an Original Song



After playing Pop Star Producer, students write their own music lyrics, using the format of the game. Students write verses, a transition, and a chorus, counting out the number of syllables to fit the music. You might want to encourage students to write their lyrics so they rhyme. This activity strengthens language use, writing and creative imagination.

When students have created their lyrics, encourage them to go to Pop Star Producer and practice singing their own lyrics with the different types of characters created on the Song Charts.

**Discuss:** What was hard about writing lyrics? What was easy about it? Which parts were harder to compose, the verses, the transition or the chorus? Why?

**Try This.** Be sure to ask students to write down the value message of the song they create. Students might tear off the bottom of the page where the value message is written and share their lyrics with peers. Others can try to guess what the value message is.

**Discuss:** Do listeners identify the same value message that the writer intended to communicate? Why or why not?



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

### COMPOSE AN ORIGINAL SONG

After playing Pop Star Producer, get creative and compose your own lyrics for an original song. Use the format below and, when you're done, try singing your song while your pop star performs!

**VERSE:** The verse is usually the “story” of the song. Create two phrases or sentences. Each phrase or sentence needs to have 9 – 14 syllables. A syllable (a word or part of a word) is a short sound that can be said without interruption. For example, the word “original” has 4 syllables.

Verse 1:

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Verse 2:

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**TRANSITION:** This part of the song connects the verse to the chorus. Write two phrases, each 10 syllables long. You can use the back of this sheet if you need more space.

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**CHORUS:** The chorus is the musical highlight of the song, with a catchy phrase or “hook” that gives the song its title. Most choruses use repetition, so don't be afraid to use the same phrase more than once in your chorus. Write four 8 – 10 syllable lines.

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**THE VALUE MESSAGE:** All songs have a value message. What is your song really saying?

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