

# SONG ACTIVITY FACTORY

[026 - 2023]



## DESCRIPTION:

This song-based lesson plan, centered around Imagine Dragons' "Children of the Sky," guides students through key activities. They WATCH a vocabulary video, CRAFT sentences using new words, ENGAGE with the video story chapters, LISTEN to the song, SHARE impressions, WATCH the lyrics video, DISCUSS questions in pairs, and IMAGINE the official music video. A comprehensive learning journey enhancing reading, listening, speaking, and creative thinking skills.

**Language level: B1**

**Learner type: All ages**

**Skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing**

**Topic: Chasing Dreams and Friendship**

**Materials: genially presentation with Youtube videos**

**Duration: 60 min**



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# STEP-BY-STEP LESSON PLAN

## Step 1 (5 min)

On Slide 1 of the Genially presentation [LINK](#), tell your students they will be working with a story connected to a song. But before diving into the story, they'll watch a video to learn some new words that will help them understand it better. (play the video 2x)

## Step 2 (10 min)

Move to Slide 2 in the presentation. Ask students to make sentences about the pictures using the new words they just learned from the video. They can either read these sentences out loud or type them in the chat box if you're teaching online.

## Step 3 (10 - 15 min)

Now, go to Slide 3. Explain to your students that they're going to watch the story in the song's video. Start with Chapter 1, but pause the video just before Chapter 2 begins to ask some questions. Then, continue the video, and pause it again before the next chapter for more questions. Keep repeating these steps until you finish Chapter 5. The entire song story video lasts for 4 minutes and 39 seconds.

### "Chasing Dreams in the Sky"

[Chapter 1: Dreaming Together]

[Scene: A small town in the countryside. Four close friends - Alex, Sarah, Michael, and Emily - sit on a grassy hillside overlooking the town. The sun sets, painting the sky with hues of orange and pink. They gaze up at the stars, filled with wonder.]

Narrator (V.O.): Our story begins in a small town, where a group of friends share big dreams. They want to reach for the stars and promise to do it together.

Alex points at a particular bright star in the sky and says, "You see that star, guys? That one right there, it's our ticket to a grand adventure."

Sarah asks, "Adventure? What are you talking about, Alex?"

Michael chimes in, "Yeah, are we going to space or something?"

Alex smiles, his eyes shining with excitement, "Well, not exactly space, but we're going to make our dreams come true. We've all talked about it. We want to do something big with our lives, right?"

Emily nods enthusiastically, "Absolutely! I've always dreamed of traveling, exploring new places, and meeting interesting people."

Sarah adds, "And I want to make a real difference in the world, leave my mark."

Michael agrees, "Count me in too! Let's chase our dreams together."

Alex pulls out a notebook and starts jotting down ideas, "Okay, so let's make a pact. We'll support each other, no matter what. We'll work hard and never give up."

Emily suggests, "And we'll always remember this moment, under the starry sky, where our journey began."

They all put their hands together, forming a tight circle, and Alex says, "Friends forever?"

In unison, they all respond, "Friends forever!"

As they make their pact, the stars seem to shine even brighter, symbolizing the beginning of their shared dreams and adventures.

**Teacher pauses the video and asks the questions below:**

**Factual Questions:**

1. Where does Chapter 1 take place? (In a small town in the countryside.)
2. What did Alex say about the bright star in the sky? (He said it's their ticket to a grand adventure.)

**Speculation Questions:**

3. Why did the friends meet on the hillside at sunset? (Answers may vary, but they met to discuss their dreams and make a pact.)

1. What do you think the friends mean by "reaching for the stars"? (Answers may vary, but it likely means pursuing their dreams and ambitions.)

**Opinion Questions:**

5. Why is it good for friends to help each other with their dreams, in your opinion? (Answers may vary, but it's good because friends can provide support and encouragement.)

1. What do you believe the friends' pact under the starry sky represents? (Answers may vary, but it likely represents their commitment to pursuing their dreams together.)

**Prediction Questions for the Next Chapter:**

7. What do you think will happen to the friends next? (Answers will vary based on students' predictions.)

How do you think their adventures will continue in the story? (Answers will vary based on students' predictions.)

**[Chapter 2: The Promise]**

[Scene: The friends are now a bit older, gathered around a campfire in the woods. They reminisce about their dreams.]

Narrator (V.O.): Years passed, but the friends never forgot their pact. They worked hard, saved money, and supported each other through thick and thin.

Sarah reminisces, "Remember when we promised to change the world?"

Michael adds, "Yeah, and I think it's time we start."

Emily pulls out a world map, "Look, I've been planning. There are so many places we can go, so many people we can help."

Alex holds a stack of travel brochures, "I've been collecting these. Let's choose our first destination."

They huddle around the map and brochures, the campfire flickering in the background.

Sarah says, "I can't believe it's finally happening. Our dreams are becoming a reality."

**Teacher pauses the video and asks the questions below:****Factual Questions:**

1. Where are the friends gathered in Chapter 2? (Around a campfire in the woods.)
2. What did Emily pull out during their discussion in the woods? (A world map.)

**Speculation Questions:**

3. Why do you think the friends are gathered around a campfire in the woods?

1. What might the friends mean by "changing the world" when they reminisce about their promise?

**Opinion Questions:**

5. Why is it important for friends to keep their promises, in your opinion?

1. What do you believe is the significance of the friends planning their adventures and discussing their dreams?

**Prediction Questions for the Next Chapter:**

7. Based on what happened in Chapter 2, what do you predict the friends will do next in the story?

1. How do you think their plans and dreams will unfold as they start to make them a reality?

**[Chapter 3: The Adventure Begins]**

[Scene: The friends are at an airport, bags packed and passports in hand.]

Narrator (V.O.): The day had come. They stood at the airport, ready to board a plane to their first destination. The adventure was about to begin.

Emily, with tears in her eyes, says, "I can't believe we're doing this."

Michael nods, "It's surreal. But we've worked hard for this."

Alex grins, "Remember, this is just the beginning. We'll see the world together."

They share a group hug, filled with excitement and a touch of nervousness as they step onto the plane.

**Teacher pauses the video and asks the questions below:****Factual Questions:**

1. Where are the friends in Chapter 3? (At the airport.)
2. Why are they at the airport? (They are ready to board a plane to their first destination.)

**Speculation Questions:**

3. Why do you think Emily has tears in her eyes at the airport? (Answers may vary, but she might be feeling a mix of excitement, nervousness, and anticipation.)

1. What country or continent do you think they will visit first? Why?

**Opinion Questions:**

5. If you were traveling with them, what country would you like to go first and why?
1. Do you believe it is important to follow your dreams? Why or why not?

**Prediction Questions for the Next Chapter:**

7. What do you think will happen to the friends next in their adventure?

1. How do you expect their journey to continue after they board the plane for their first destination?

**[Chapter 4: Exploring the Unknown]**

[[Scene: The friends are seen traveling to various countries, helping communities, and making new friends.]

Narrator (V.O.): Over the years, they traveled to many countries, living out their dreams. They explored the unknown, experienced different cultures, and made lasting friendships.

Sarah, speaking to a group of children, says, "Education is the key to a brighter future."

Michael, while building houses, says, "Together, we can make a difference."

They are seen smiling, laughing, and working side by side with locals, truly making an impact.

**Teacher pauses the video and asks the questions below:**

**Factual Questions:**

1. What have the friends been doing over the years? (Traveling to various countries, helping communities, and making new friends.)
2. What does Sarah say about education when speaking to a group of children? ("Education is the key to a brighter future.")

**Speculation Questions:**

3. Why do you think the friends are passionate about helping communities and making a difference?
  1. What might be some of the challenges they face while exploring the unknown and experiencing different cultures?

**Opinion Questions:**

5. In your opinion, why is education important for a brighter future?
  1. Do you believe that making a difference in the world is an important goal? Why or why not?

**Prediction Questions for the Next Chapter:**

7. Based on what happened in Chapter 4, what do you predict the friends will happen in the final chapter of this story?

**[Chapter 5: The Sky's the Limit]**

[Scene: The friends, now older, gather once more on the same hillside where it all began.]

Narrator (V.O.): Time flew by, but their spirits remained unchanged. They returned to the same hillside where they once dreamed together.

Emily points to the stars and says, "Look at the stars, just like that first night."

Alex gazes up at the sky and reflects, "We've come so far."

Michael nods, "And we've helped so many."

They sit in silence, taking in the beauty of the starry night, and Sarah adds, "Our dreams were big, but we made them come true."

The friends share a moment of gratitude, understanding that they've achieved their dreams by supporting each other and staying true to the pact they made under the starry sky.

**Teacher stops the video and asks the questions below:****Factual Questions:**

1. Where do the friends gather in Chapter 5? (On the same hillside where they once dreamed together.)
2. What do they do when they return to the hillside? (They gaze at the stars and reflect on their journey.)

**Speculation Questions:**

3. Why do you think the friends chose to return to the same hillside where they made their pact?
  1. What do you imagine is going through their minds as they sit in silence and look at the starry night?

**Opinion Questions:**

5. In your opinion, why is it important for these friends to return to the place where their journey began?
  1. How do you think achieving their dreams together might have made their friendship stronger?

**Final Reflection Questions:**

7. What do you think is the most important lesson we can learn from the friends' journey and experiences in this story?
  1. If you were one of the friends, what would you say to express your feelings and thoughts as you sit on the hillside looking at the stars?

#### Step 4 (5- 7 min)

Now, on Slide 4, remind your students that the story they just read is based on a song. Play only the audio of the song for them to listen to. While they listen, ask them to jot down any words or expressions that they think relate to the story. After listening, have the students share their first impressions and discuss how they think the song connects to the story.

#### Step 5 (10 min)

Next, move to Slide 5 and play the lyrics video so that students can follow the lyrics while listening to the song. Then, divide them into pairs in breakout rooms. They should discuss the questions provided. After some time, bring them back to the main group and have each pair report on their answers. Finally, engage in a brief group discussion.

### 1. How do the lyrics of the song "Children Of The Sky" relate to the story "Chasing Dreams in the Sky"? Are there any common themes or messages?

(The lyrics of the song and the story both share common themes of pursuing dreams, overcoming challenges, and making a positive impact on the world. The song's message of resilience and hope aligns with the friends' journey to achieve their dreams and help others)

### 2. The song mentions "Destiny's calling me." How does this line connect to the friends' journey in the story?

(In the story, the friends are driven by their dreams and aspirations, which can be seen as their destiny. They make a pact to support each other in pursuing their dreams, and this line reflects their sense of purpose and determination to answer the call of their dreams.)

### 3. In the song, there's a line that says, "We're children of the sky guided by the light." How does this line resonate with the friends' aspirations and experiences in the story?

(This line in the song reflects the idea that the friends are guided by their shared dreams, just as they were inspired by the starry sky in Chapter 1. Throughout their journey, they rely on their dreams as a guiding light, motivating them to reach for the stars and make a positive impact, which aligns with their experiences in the story.)

#### Step 6 (5 - 7 min)

For the last step, ask the students to imagine what the official music video for this song might be like. After they've shared their thoughts, play the official music video for them. Encourage them to comment on it and discuss their impressions to conclude the activity.

That's it for this week! I hope this activity is helpful and enjoyable!

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Happy teaching! :)

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Or just bored and unmotivated?

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Or just the same old gap fill worksheet?

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Would you like to use songs in a **meaningful** way and grab your **students' attention**?

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