

Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

*Encourage the young
and they will flourish*

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Teacher's Notes



in partnership with

Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

This seanfhocal means ‘encourage the young and they will flourish’ or ‘praise the young and they will thrive’.

Suggested teaching steps

Step 1

Watch the song video to learn the melody together

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The video teaches the melody step-by-step, using a call-and-response pattern.

Listen

Your turn!



Look out for the bird saying ‘listen’ and ‘your turn’.

red writing = listen

green writing = sing

Repeat the video as necessary, and practise the lines by singing without the video too. The music reflects the idea of starting small and growing bit-by-bit. It begins with the short phrase ‘mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí’, and then the melody grows by adding an extra ‘mol an óige’ each time:

Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí.

Mol an óige, mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí.

Mol an óige, mol an óige, mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí.

With each new ‘mol an óige’, the melody rises a little higher, as if growing in size and confidence. Everyone sings together in unison from the start until we have learned the full melody (2.12 in the video). After that, continue to sing the melody right through to the end, or, the class can divide into parts to sing in canon/as a round (see below).

YOUTH SING IRELAND

Your turn!

Mol an ói - ge, mol an ói - ge,

mol an ói - ge a - gus tioc - faidh sí.

Part 1
mol an ói - ge a - gus tioc - faidh sí.

Part 2
mol an ói - ge, mol an ói - ge a - gus

Part 3
Mol an ói - ge, mol an ói - ge,

Part 4
Mol an ói - ge,

Step 2

Discussion and brainstorming.

Explore situations where this seanfhocal is relevant in our lives, when encouragement helps people to reach their potential and to feel good. When can we encourage others? What phrases can we use to give encouragement? How do we feel when others encourage us?

We can use a metaphor to help illustrate the seanfhocal, such as making sure flowers or trees have water and light so they can grow and blossom into their full colour and beauty.

Step 3

Colour in the colouring page for this song.

Make a colourful poster, individually or in groups, inspired by the seanfhocal.

Complete a comic strip/story board inspired by the seanfhocal.

Step 4



Sing in parts:

In the song, everyone sings the melody together in unison, and then, from 2.13 in the video, the class can sing in **canon** if you like.

This means that instead of singing all at the same time, we can add more parts, with each singing the same melody, starting on the same note, but at different times.

Challenge! Start the video at 2.12. Listen to Part 1, and then all sing Part 2 together – can you start at the right time? Look out for the baby owl! Can you hold your part against the other voices in the video?

Extra Challenge! If the teacher sings Part 1, can the class sing Part 2 against the teacher? Then, divide the class into two groups to sing Part 1 and Part 2 against each other.

Ultimate Challenge! Link with one, two, or three other classes in the school to sing the song together. Work out who will sing which part, and then sing the parts against each other!

Hint: Make sure the unison melody is very secure before carefully adding the 2nd part, then the 3rd part, and finally the 4th part. Once the canon starts, each part sings the full phrase through twice, and then sings ‘tiocfaidh sí’ until the end.

Step 5

Perform the song without the video.

Use the backing track, or, if you and/or the children play instruments, perform the piece as a group. The whole song uses just two chords: C major and D minor, and the melody is suitable for a wide range of instruments. You can find the notes and the chords in the music score. If you perform without the backing track, then the structure of the song is flexible – feel free to make changes or move things around.

Further Activities

Writing music: During the canon section, the music becomes louder. It reaches a high point or climax (at 2.52), and then becomes softer again. Learn how to write ‘getting louder’ and ‘getting softer’ using musical symbols known as hairpins:



= getting louder



= getting softer

Researching the orchestra: This song contains singing and accompaniment. The accompaniment is played by an orchestra. Watch a video of an orchestra online. Research the different families of instruments that we find in an orchestra, including the string family, the brass family, the woodwind family, and the percussion family.



Mol an óige
agus
tiocfaidh
sí