

Songs that serve as "covers" for conversations

These titles are all instrumental songs. When students are standing with partners in the classroom, the music serves as a "cover" for their conversations. They can have their discussions safe in the knowledge they probably won't be overheard.

I do not use music with lyrics to accompany conversations. Students who know the song lyrics will be singing them, rather than holding the kind of academic conversations you want them to have.

Here they are:

Les Brown and his Orchestra

Leap Frog

Woodchopper's Ball

Benny Goodman

Stompin' at the Savoy

Don't Be That Way

Let's Dance

King Porter Stomp

One O'Clock Jump

Jumpin' at the Woodside

Ramsey Lewis Trio

The In Crowd

Jimmy & Tommy Dorsey

Opus 1

Stompin' at the Savoy

Begin the Beguine

Glenn Miller

In the Mood

String of Pearls

You don't need many of these songs, and they should be paired with a transition song that will get students to and from their seats as they work in pairs. For example, one third-grade teacher uses *Walking on Sunshine* (Aly & AJ) to get her students into pairs and back to their seats when the paired conversations are over. It doesn't matter if these transition songs have lyrics; indeed, the kids in this particular class sing along as they move from one place to another to the beat of the music.