

pTrumpet®

Jiggs
pBone®

Create your First pBone
or pTrumpet Circle

Some helpful hints, a plan and suggested
activities.

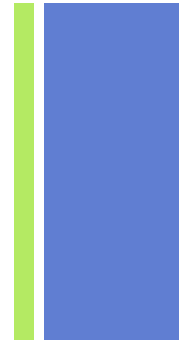


+ What do you need?

- 20 or thirty participants
- 20-30 pBones or pTrumpets or a mix
- A large, empty space
- A leader
- Possibly a head mic
- An hour
- A plan
- Watch our video examples from circles:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLaot4HKzh2jr0b1IYcYXoNHmjkBB9pLBa>

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+ A plan!



Namm 2014 pBone Circle Lesson Plan	
Preparation: pBones are set out in a circle center stage, slides meeting at the centre. CF has voice mic.	
Activity	Objectives
Warm up.	Everyone is paying attention to the leader.
Head tap game.	We have engaged both sides of the brain
Big breaths	Posture has been well modelled and awareness of posture is developing.
	Awareness breathing has been introduced and raised.
	A musical pulse has been introduced and modelled
Follow me claps/hn (extension if time)	Beat and duration

Download a plan from:

http://www.pbone.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/pBone_circle-plan.pdf

+ Preparations 1

- Have all your instruments in a circle radiating out from the center of your space



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+ Preparations 2



- Have your mic and level checked before people enter
- Hand out mouthpieces to each participant as they enter
- Ask people not to pick up the instruments
- Ask people to stand in a circle
- Create relaxed but hushed atmosphere with your manner and posture
- Explain that the majority of the session will involve “extreme copying”

+ Warming up



- It's your choice of warm-up but this what we need to achieve:
 - Everyone is paying attention to the leader and each other
 - Both sides of the brain are engaged
 - Posture is well modeled and an awareness of it's importance is building
 - Breathing is well modeled and an awareness of it's importance is building
 - The pulse or beat is introduced

+ Warm ups



- In the plan we have suggested these warm-ups:
 - Head tap game.
 - Big breaths
- You will find descriptions in the plan
- The key words for warm-ups are FOCUS and FUN! Deliver accordingly!

Watch Example Warm-up Videos:

<https://youtu.be/m6CBUbZIQcQ>

<https://youtu.be/ULNtNt3kifE>

<https://youtu.be/PA7YFAynSX4>

<https://youtu.be/TwXujuh3ltM>

https://youtu.be/Zynh8oI_yP0

<https://youtu.be/NM4I5L8zjFk>

+ Deliver your warm up



- Try to deliver by copying and modeling, not verbal description
- Always introduce some fun elements such as catching the circle out
- Always give the circle a chance to win after they are caught out!
- Create a small amount of “down time” at the end, but don’t “loose them”, push on to:

+ Deeper following games



- These are good to transition from warm-up into learning and focusing on music
 - *Follow me claps*
 - *Song rope*
 - Sing/buzz/play
 - (Again, you will find descriptions in the plan!)
- A seamless move from clapping and singing to buzzing and playing will make the brass playing less daunting

+ Sing Buzz Play



- After the claps use the “song rope” to break down any barriers to singing
- After the “rope” play High, Medium and Low, explaining that all participants will most likely play one of these pitches (and that it doesn’t matter which one comes out!)
- Explore singing High, Medium, Low. Use hand signals
- Allow the circle to get comfortable with the mouthpiece before you create a buzz
- Mix singing and buzzing together in your call and response
- Use dynamics to help guide breath control across pitch
- Don’t worry about articulation yet

+ Get to Grips



- You must have prepared a clear set of steps and stick to them
- Watch some example videos, there's no right and wrong only what works for you
- Try to create a triangle from the lower arms, like a prayer, with straight wrists
- It's not a disaster if all are not perfect as long as their approximations are moving in the right direction.

+ Pre-blow posture



- Always emphasize the “head up (looking at your friend across the circle)” and direction of air “(aim at the feet of the circle opposite)” instructions
- Angle of attack from mouth to mouthpiece is essential to success here, aim for a downwards angle of about 10-15 degrees
- Try getting the air to travel in the correct direction before adding the mouthpiece and before adding the buzz

Watch Example Posture Videos:

<https://youtu.be/-rt8MUPkjTU>

<https://youtu.be/sWzy-PZD0e4>

<https://youtu.be/zvYZLPkYSyg>

+ Playing notes

- Repeat the same process you used with buzzing
- Mix singing and buzzing
- Don't forget the angle of attack with head up straight!!
- The emphasis here should be on getting a note and the quality of that note rather than aiming at a pre-determined pitch.
- Allow lots of opportunity to experiment and refine.
- Approximations that incorporate the core skills are a success and will refine.

Watch How to Play Videos:

<https://youtu.be/20aJduNTSdM>

https://youtu.be/GOz8Rs_G_rA

<https://youtu.be/TY-WilhwCRM>

https://youtu.be/i5Fb3gPy_fA

<https://youtu.be/HoKjls9ip1o>

<https://youtu.be/5KrxvLq-DZE>

<https://youtu.be/BrX905xqSko>

<https://youtu.be/632y3RXcpd8>

+ Bringing it all together



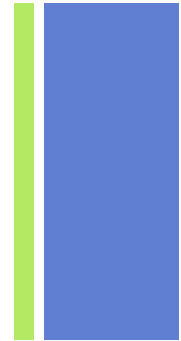
- This needs to end in a musical performance by the group, using the skills they have been learning
- Remember this is dependent on how each group progresses
- You will need two or three planned strategies
- Backing tracks are really useful here to create a holistic musical experience
- Always differentiate between learning, rehearsing and performing
- Always end with a success!

Watch Performance Videos:
<https://youtu.be/GEOS34MPoy4>
<https://youtu.be/obucy5Pn6ac>

+ Remember to congratulate your team

- Smile
- Applaud
- Encourage
- Celebrate small victories

Good Luck!



+ Case Study: NAMM



- The information for the pCircle at NAMM 2014

<http://www.pbone.co.uk/namm2014/>

- How it went? Videos & Pictures showing the circle

<http://www.pbone.co.uk/namm-2014-workshop-post-event/>

+ Please share your own experiences with us



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