

# Rhode Island Red

Harmonic Minor Tonality  
Usual Duple Meter

Beth Bolton

$\text{♩} = 60$  Fine

D. C. al Fine

All Ages

A Rhode Island Red is a chicken.

Introduce the song by singing the middle line, which is the melody. Move with sustained fluid movement as you sing, portraying the tension in the song. Emphasize the silences in the song. Repeat, inviting everyone to move as you move. Repeat a few more times, encouraging everyone to move around the room as they listen and sing.

Ask everyone to be seated, and introduce the bass line of the song. You might want to touch your shoulders as you sing the tonic, knees when you sing the dominant, and head when you sing the subdominant. Toddlers and older children will want to copy your movements.

Encourage everyone to choose their favorite part of the song (melody or bass line) and sing both parts together.

During the next class period, introduce the top line. Use a chicken puppet and make a sound like a chicken when you sing (cluck) this line. Encourage parents and children to sing the melody and bass lines while you sing the chicken part. Then invite others to hold the puppet and sing the chicken line.

Once everyone learns the chicken part, experiment with various combinations of the parts. Ask children and parents to only imagine singing the chicken part (audiate), but not to sing it. Do the same technique with the melody and the harmony part.