Lesson Plan for NYSSMA Music Views

Name: Cynthia Mayo

Title: Vocal/Instrumental and Rhythmic Improvisation

Level
✓ Elementary
✓ Middle School
✓ High School

Content Area
✓ Band
✓ Chorus
✓ Classroom
✓ Orchestra

Objective
Students will improvise vocally and instrumentally, using the techniques of question & answer and call & response

The NYS Learning Standard(s) this lesson will address...
✓ Creating, Performing and Participating in the Arts
✓ Knowing and Using Arts Materials and Resources
✓ Responding to and Analyzing Works of Art
✓ Understanding the Cultural Dimensions and Contributions of the Arts

National Standards for Music Education this lesson...
✓ Singing – alone and with others – a varied repertoire of music
✓ Performing on instruments – alone and with others – a varied repertoire of music
✓ Improvising melodies, variations and accompaniments
  Composing and arranging music within specific guidelines
  Reading and notating music
✓ Listening to, analyzing and describing music
✓ Evaluating music and music performances
  Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts
✓ Understanding music in relation to history and culture
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Instructional Ideas
Question & Answer: verbal, sung, played on instruments. Call & Response: how traditionally used; sing African & Caribbean songs in this style; improvise calls on drums and other percussion instruments.

Assessment
Class discussion - which techniques were most successful?

References/Resources
World Music Drumming - Will Schmid, published by Hal Leonard

Notes
Geared toward middle school, but easily adapted for elementary or high school.