Lesson#: 1

Title: Parody of Favorite Song

Date: 7/20

Time of day: 11:30-12:00

Artists: Darshini

Materials/Prep: Lyrics and recording of your favorite song, paper, pen, something to record yourself with (laptop, phone, camera).

Introduction/Goals: Have you ever wanted to write your own song, but didn't know where to start? Do you ever make up your own lyrics to songs you know? In this activity you get the best of both worlds! With the melody already written, all you have to do is get creative and have fun with the lyrics. Make them silly or make them serious, it's your choice. Maybe you could share this at Open Mic?

Activity: Listen to your favorite song and sing along with the lyrics. Once you feel like you understand and remember the melody, decide on the topic of your song. Take some time to write the new lyrics. You can rewrite the whole song or a portion. When you're done, record yourself singing your lyrics using the song's melody!

Tips for lyric writing: When writing your own lyrics remember to pay attention to rhyme and rhythm. To make sure your new lyrics fit well with the original melody, count the number of syllables in each phrase in the original lyrics and use that as a guide for your new lyrics.

Examples:

Nations of the World - Animaniacs
"Weird Al" Yankovic - I Love Rocky Road
"Beethoven's Wig (Symphony No. 5)" - Beethoven's Wig

Vocabulary: lyrics, parody, topic, record, rhyme, rhythm, melody, syllables, phrase, verse, bridge, chorus

Closing: Students can present their new and improved songs to each other.

Successes: Students are excited, have fun, and finish the project feeling accomplished

Challenges: Students struggle to identify parts of songs or find it difficult to match the syllable count.

CA State Standard(s): K.MU:Cr1, 2.MU:Cr1, K.MU:Cr3.2, 1.MU:Pr4.2, K.MU:Pr6

Relevant Artist(s) and Distinguished People: "Weird Al" Yankovic, Animaniacs, Beethoven's Wig