



Enrichment Activity for *The Jazz Fly* Creating a Jazz Story in Class

by Matthew Gollub © 2016-23 Ideal for grades 2nd-6th

1) Have your students call out two-syllable jazz words. (They can do this by combining a consonant and vowel sound.) Write the words on a whiteboard as you go, for example **ZA-Dee**, **Du-DAH**, **ZOO-doo**, **DAY-duh**. Use all caps to show where to accent the invented words. (Tip: avoid personal names and actual words, including ones that are sure to distract such as PEE-pee, POO-poo 😊.) Encourage older students to also use blends (2 consecutive consonants like BL and TH) and diphthongs (2 consecutive vowel sounds like OW and AY). The same vowel sound can be written in different ways: "u" or "oo"; "e" or "eh", etc.

2) You've heard of MAD Libs. The template below is a "JAZZ Lib." Insert your 2-syllable jazz words into the spaces 1-3 and 5-7. Sample jazz words provided in **bold**.

3) Now have the students create 1-syllable jazz words like *zlip*, *boim*, *schloz*, *fumpf*. Insert one into space 4. (Here, try using blends with 'hard' sounding consonants such as "K," "T," "P," "TZ," etc. to vary the feel and variety of your jazz words.)

4) Next, have students create 3-syllable jazz words, and enter one into space 8. (Tip: these longer jazz words will flow well if you accent the first and third syllables. Exa., KOCH-a-KU, ZOP-a-DEE, ZOOM-vee-BOP.)

5) Now have fun! Chant each sentence in rhythm, and have the students repeat. (Call and response.) Add lots of expression by letting your voice rise and fall. Add drama by varying your tone from serious to loose and jazzy, etc. The X's indicate where to snap on beats 2 & 4. Ask students to listen for which word falls on each snap. Ear training!

I had a **ZEE-buh**. It used to be a **ZOY-buh**.
 X 1. X X 2. X

But when I got a **BLOO-chee**, it turned into a **SKOITZ**.
 X 3. X X 4. X

After all the **DEE-pah**, I really had to a **YEE-pah**.
 X 5. X X 6. X

So if you want to **BLIM-bop**, you'd better **ZAH-bah-DING!**.
 X 7. X X 8. X

7) Now ask students to try to interpret what this story may be about 😊!