

# John Kanakanaka

*This is an adaptation of a traditional Polynesian folk song*

## John Kanakanaka

Polynesian Folk Song

I heard, I heard the old man say. John Ka - na - ka - na - ka, tu - lai - ay!

To-day, to - day is a hol - i - day, John Ka - na - ka - na - ka, tu - lai - ay!

Tu - lai - ay, Tu - lai - ay, John Ka - na - ka - na - ka tu - lai - ay!

### Sequence

- Teacher sings song and asks students to listen for name of POI (person of interest) [use solfege hand signs on name *d r m m m m r r d*, and on "tulaia" *s m s*]
- Have Ss echo and show hand signs on solfege *d r m m m m r r d* (John Kanakanaka)
- Have Ss determine where this melodic pattern happens in the song
- Learn instrumental parts (accompaniment)
  - BX (broken bordun)
  - AM (level bordun) – 2 half notes low/2 half notes high (practice in air first)
  - Glocks – play melody of "John Kanakanaka" when it occurs – give them time to figure out where this is on their instruments (*d r m m m m r r d*)
  - AX/SX – learn **Left Hand** part: *m m r r d d d* (quarter notes, last note is a half note). The **Right Hand** stays on the same note (A) and plays same rhythm

### UPP:

- Sing song without accompaniment with T playing the conga drum part. Have students determine where the conga drum plays (John) – student takes over that part
- Repeat process for temple blocks (Kanakanaka); tambourine (tu-lai); triangle (ay)
- Put song together with accompaniment and UPP
- Encourage Ss to think of possible movement possibilities with song