Sei, Sei, Sei

Singing game - Japan
As sung by Sean Manes, originally from Hiroshima

"Rock, Paper Scissors" game format

Revise gestures: bounce hands with partner, 4 beats; cross hands and bounce 4 beats; alternate clapping own hands, then partner's hands, 6 beats; end with "Hoi!"

Locomotor: students walk beat to new partner during line 1, play game during line 2

Additional variations: Incorporate the Japanese word for thank you in the game!
At the end of each round of the game, students bow politely to each other, regardless of who won that round, and say arigato to each other.

Further variations: Students stand on full sheet of newspaper while singing the song. After bowing and saying arigato to each other, the child who lost that round must fold his newspaper in half and now must stand on the smaller version during the song. Continue playing until one student cannot maintain balance for the duration of the song (they only need to keep balance while the song is being sung).

Assessment: This is a great activity to mill around among your students and check how they are doing individually on pitch matching. Because they are interested in the playing of the game, they are not thinking about the fact that they are singing. I find that even my students with pitch-matching challenges do well in this context. Why do you think this is the case?