



MAKING MUSIC

SUBJECT

music (rhythm), patterning

GROUPING

individuals, whole class

SUPPLIES

copy of the Making Music Activity Sheet
supplies for making rhythm instruments
(see activity sheet)
assorted tapes or CDs (with fast and slow rhythms)
tape or CD player

ACTIVITY

1. Tell students that they will make rhythm instruments. Show them the instruments on the Making Music Activity Sheet and explain how they are played.
 - Rhythm sticks – Tap the sticks together.
 - Shaker – Shake the container.
 - Finger cymbals – Click the cymbals together.
2. Let each student choose an instrument to make, or assign an instrument to each student. Help students construct and decorate their instruments as directed on the activity sheet.
3. Play a variety of music CDs or tapes as students keep time with their instruments. Discuss the different rhythms. Which ones are fast? Which are slow? If you wish, have students exchange instruments so they can try all three types of rhythm instruments.
4. Finally, have students tap their rhythm sticks, shake their shakers, and click their cymbals to create auditory patterns. Try the patterns below; then let students create their own.

Pattern A

tap/click, tap/click ...

Pattern B

shake/top, shake/top ...

Pattern C

tap/shake/click, tap/shake/click ...

Pattern D

shake/top/top, shake/top/top ...

Pattern E

click/click/top/top/shake, click/click/top/top/shake ...