

Beat and Rhythm

Approach: Team

Level: Year 4 and year 8

Resources: Music video. The music segment featured Pacific Island singing with ukelele and drum accompaniment; 8 coconut shell halves.

Questions/instructions

Before starting assign each student a “name”: A, B, C and D.

We are going start this activity by watching a video clip of 4 children playing the beat to some music. Watch carefully to see what they do.

Start the video

In this activity, you will be working in the same way as the team we saw on the video. We will hear music that has sections or phrases which have 8 beats. I want you to take turns at making up rhythms.

Before we start, let's listen to the music.

Restart video.

When the screen is red, I want everyone to play the beat together. It will be for 8 beats.

When the screen changes to yellow, I want [name of first student] who is A, to play a rhythm, while the rest of the group keep on playing the same beat.

When the screen changes to red again, I want everyone to keep playing the same beat.

When the screen changes to yellow again, I want [name second student] who is B, to play a rhythm, while the rest of the group keep on playing the same beat.

... and so on. When the screen is red — everyone plays the same beat. When it's yellow, one person plays a rhythm, and the rest of you play the beat.

Distribute the coconut shells

The first time I play the music is a practise run, so that you can get used to what you are doing. We'll do that now.

Restart the video

Now I'll play the music again, so that you can do it one more time.

Restart the video

Individual performance

maintaining regular beat

	% responses <i>year 4</i>	<i>year 8</i>
always	14	40
mostly	40	33
some of the time	34	20
rarely	12	7

Individual performance

creating rhythm pattern to fit with beat

throughout	17	28
mostly	23	32
some of the time	26	24
rarely	34	16