

Listening to rhythm

Materials required

Drum and drum stick.

How to play

Play simple rhythms on the drum and ask the children to imitate them. Start with simple combinations of up to three beats, eg one slow beat then two quick. After each rhythm has been played nominate one child to repeat it.

Longer combinations can also be played – two quick beats followed by three slow, or one slow, two quick and one slow. Give each child at least two turns. If a child makes an error, repeat the rhythm and give the child a second or third chance. You may find that certain children perform better at this activity than others, in which case shorter combinations can be played to some children and longer combinations to others.

Variations

Use hand clapping instead of drum beating.

Identifying action sounds

Materials required

None.

How to play

In this activity you will need to perform various actions that the children must identify and imitate. A variety of actions can be performed such as coughing, sneezing, clapping, foot tapping, yawning, eating, moving a chair, etc. Actions that can be easily imitated by the children are best. Before starting the activity, demonstrate all the actions.

Ensure that the children close their eyes and turn away so that the action cannot be seen. After the action has been performed, ask the children to face you and nominate one child to identify the sound and imitate it.

Variations

To add a degree of difficulty to the game, perform two actions for the child to identify in the correct order and imitate.