

Rhythm Chant I

Voice

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This rhythm chant may be used in an early childhood music instruction setting. The teacher should be sitting in good proximity of children on the floor with enough space to move expressively. The teacher should chant the above rhythm on the syllable "bah" . The teacher should model continuous sustained movement with various body parts while chanting. The movement should flow in a gentle and calm manner, with the exception of the final three beats when teacher should dramatically pat the floor with his or her hands. The teacher may also replace the dramatic pat gesture with clapping, playing the drum, or any other variation of physical accent.

The teacher should encourage the children to imitate the above rhythm in part or whole, depending upon the experience and musical aptitude of the individual young children. It should be noted that the teacher should never discourage inaccurate rhythm chanted by young children. The teacher should encourage any expressive rhythmic response.