

Make and Take Music Manipulatives

**Presented By:
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Lummi Sticks:

Materials: Newspapers or used magazines, Duct tape or electrical tape

Instructions:

Roll up 1 Section of Newspaper

Tape the top and the bottom to secure it

Then fill in the rest with your choice of coloured tape.

Ideas for Primary:

These would replace rhythm sticks.

Play stick passing games or use for keeping the beat. Since the newspaper is softer, they can play them on their body.

Recommendation is not to use on the floor or shoes. (The teachers below you will thank you!) This also helps with longevity.

Songs I love to use them with: Sarasponda and Obiswana!

Ideas for Junior:

Use these as a movement composition activity!

Criteria:

Must show the beat clearly

Must show the different sections

Must use different levels

Must have a good variety of moves that show the beat.

Hot Tip: Use a pop song that you don't hate for them to perform or practice with!

Pom Pons AKA Beat Buddies

Materials:

Pom Pons, Googley Eyes, Hot Glue Gun

Instructions:

Hot Glue the Googley Eyes to the Pom pon. Use 1, 2, 3 or 4 eyes per pom pon

Make 2 or 3 with a different number of eyes on them.

Ideas for Primary:

Use these as beat buddies!

As the teacher sings, they keep the beat with their buddy.

Have them explore the different ways to keep the beat with their buddy.

Solo Singing in Primary:

The beat buddies are a great way for getting children who are too shy to sing in front of their peers to sing to their beat buddy instead.

It's a great way to develop musical independence and also lets you assess your students' singing!

Ideas for Junior:

Use these to represent rhythms!

Each Pom Pon represents the beat, the eyes represent the rhythm

For example:

If you're in 4/4 time:

You would have 4 pom pons out

1 eye would be a quarter note, 2 would be eighth notes, 3 would be a triplet, 4 would be 4 sixteenth notes

Have the students create rhythms and perform them for the class.

Have the students point to the beat as they say the rhythm. Great for finger tracking and for keeping the beat.

As an added bonus or extra, have your students tap the beat on their bodies and say the rhythm. That is very difficult for them but a great extension for their learning!

Baking Sheet Rhythms:

Materials: Baking Sheets, Magnets, Sharpie and Rulers

Instructions:

Draw 5 lines on one side of the pan.

Draw 1 line on the other side. Take 2 or 3 magnets to go with your pan.

Baking Sheet Activities for Primary:

Use the line in the middle of the sheet. Sing or play different pitches and have the students guess if it's high or low. If it's high, they place a magnet above the line, or below the line.

Doing So-Mi songs? Have them place the magnet above the line for sol or below the line for mi.

I use this for review and assessments mostly.

Baking Sheet Ideas for Junior:

Use the magnets to review or assess absolute note names.

Use these to review note reading tricks like reading left to right and the music alphabet goes bottom to top.

If you use music nemonics when you teach note reading, use this to reinforce it. Have the students point to the line as they say the saying.

Sample Activity:

Reviewing Note Names:

Put students in groups of 2 or 3.

Have 1 student say a letter name and the other members in the group show the answer. If they get it correct, they get a point, if not, the caller gets a point. Make sure to talk about when there's 2 of the same letter name.

You can do this as a whole class as well as a test to see how they're doing. Use it as a diagnostic at the beginning of instrument unit, or as a formative to see where they are in learning. I do this just before we start recorder. As a basis to jump off of when we start recorder.