

18. Drumming for success

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Use *Introducing the activity* plus the *Basic activity* and one of the *Variations*, followed by *Drawing things together*.

Please read them all before making your choices.

Teacher's notes

- This is a fun musical activity to help learners identify key information in a topic and remember it. Either borrow percussion instruments from the music department or use hands tapping on the desks. See www.drum4success.com

Variation 2: Rounds

Develop the rhymes into rounds and like *Frère Jacques*, start each sentence off with a different group.

Drawing things together

Pupils could be encouraged to use their creative skills and link with different genres of music to create simple sounds and rhythms. A rap could be created, a pop song, a hymn, a chant and so on. All these could be used to reinforce learning, along with movement.

Introducing the activity

In pairs, pupils recite a nursery rhyme to their partner. Ask why they can all remember such rhymes. It's because words in rhyme are easier to remember. They are going to use this as a way of connecting with the key points to remember or a summary of their learning for a unit of work.

Basic activity: Basic rhythms

Use the words in the first box below to tap out the rhythm on the desk, on knees or on drums if you have them. Then apply them to the second box. Once you have got the idea, create your own words, that are important, to new rhythms. This can be used to select key facts about people, events, etc. for an exam or it could be used to enhance learning by getting the pupils to create new rhythms and chants about what they have learnt.

I like coff –ee
Mine is a strong one
Drink some tea, drink some tea
How I like to drink some tea

Jesus taught us
Love one another
Forgive all, forgive all
Enemies included too

Variation 1: Movement

Add movements in between the rhythms.