

We Got The Beat!

Using active listening, students match a rhythm, make up a rhythm, or develop new creative ideas from the original.

- Sit the students down in a circle, rows, or other arrangement so students can follow.
- The teacher claps out a rhythm and passes it on to the next student in the *group* until it is passed all the way around.
- (Optional) *If a student misses the rhythm, they hold their hands together.*
- Continue playing and increasing the difficulty of the rhythm until there is only one student left. This student is the winner. Or, they get to *start* (Leadership) the next pattern.
- Recommended pattern: 1 2 3 4. Have students clap, shake, rattle, move, make vocal sounds, assist in movement, or other appropriate movements as needed. Then, pick a number NOT to move on (1 X 3 4).

Recommended Fun Resources:

Percussion Worksheet Level 1

Percussion Performance Benchmark Level 1

Rhythm Grid Worksheet 1

Drum Beats / mp3

Podcast - Drum Beat / Percussion Part 1

(Option) As the group gets better, have the teacher start with a simple beat, each student adds one beat (or visual signal) to the pattern as it goes around the group!