

BUCKETS OF FUN

Stacy Werner
December 2024



A LITTLE ABOUT ME...

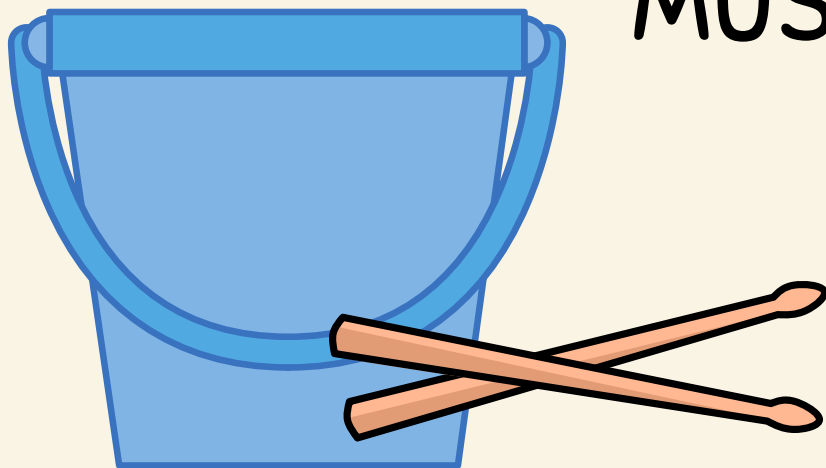
- 15 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE TEACHING ELEMENTARY MUSIC.
- MY MOM IS DENISE GAGNE AND I'VE BEEN INVOLVED WITH MUSICPLAY FROM THE BEGINNING.
- I WROTE THE SERIES "SUPER SIMPLE MUSIC CENTERS".
- I LOVE THE OUTDOORS (ESPECIALLY WINTER!) – SKI, HIKE, SKATE





WHAT WE WILL LEARN...

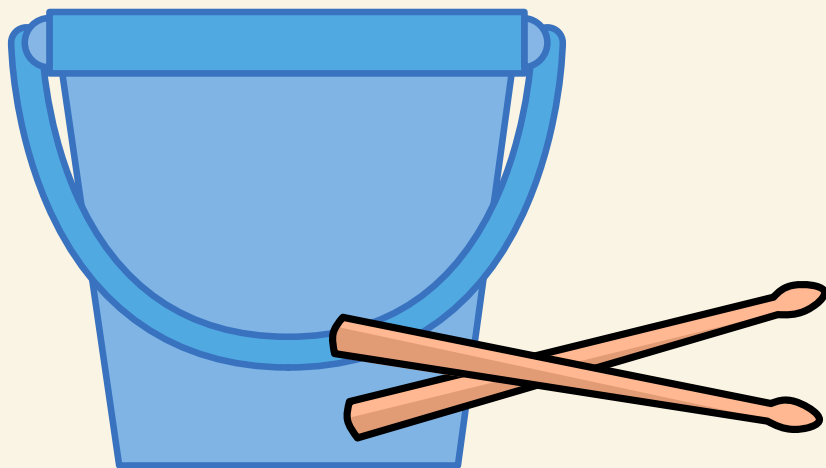
- I CAN USE STRATEGIES TO FACILITATE BUCKET DRUMMING IN MY CLASSROOM.
- I CAN DEMONSTRATE AND IMPLEMENT BUCKET DRUMMING ACTIVITIES IN MY CLASSROOM.
- I CAN FIND AND LOCATE BUCKET DRUMMING RESOURCES ON MUSICPLAY ONLINE.





WHERE TO FIND BUCKETS?

- School – cafeteria, custodian, shop teacher
- Food Services – ice cream shop, caterers, bakery
- Industrial – hardware store, paint store, Uline



VOLUME CONTROL

- Dampen the Sound on Bucket:
 - Foam on top, sit spots, hand towel, cut up yoga mat
- Dampen the Sound on Sticks:
 - Pencil grips, pencil eraser toppers, drum stick dampener
- Other Stick Options:
 - Recorder cleaning sticks, unsharpened pencils, pool noodles, fingers/hands
- Keep Sticks LOW
- Headphones Ready for Sensitive Ears
- Use Smaller Buckets





PLAYING POSITIONS

- **RESTING POSITION**
 - Hands off sticks and bucket.
- **PRACTICE POSITION**
 - Use fingers to practice.
- **READY POSITION**
 - Sticks held above bucket, ready for signal to start playing.

**IF YOU PLAY BEFORE I SAY
I'LL TAKE YOUR STICKS - AWAY!**



Unit or Embedded Approach

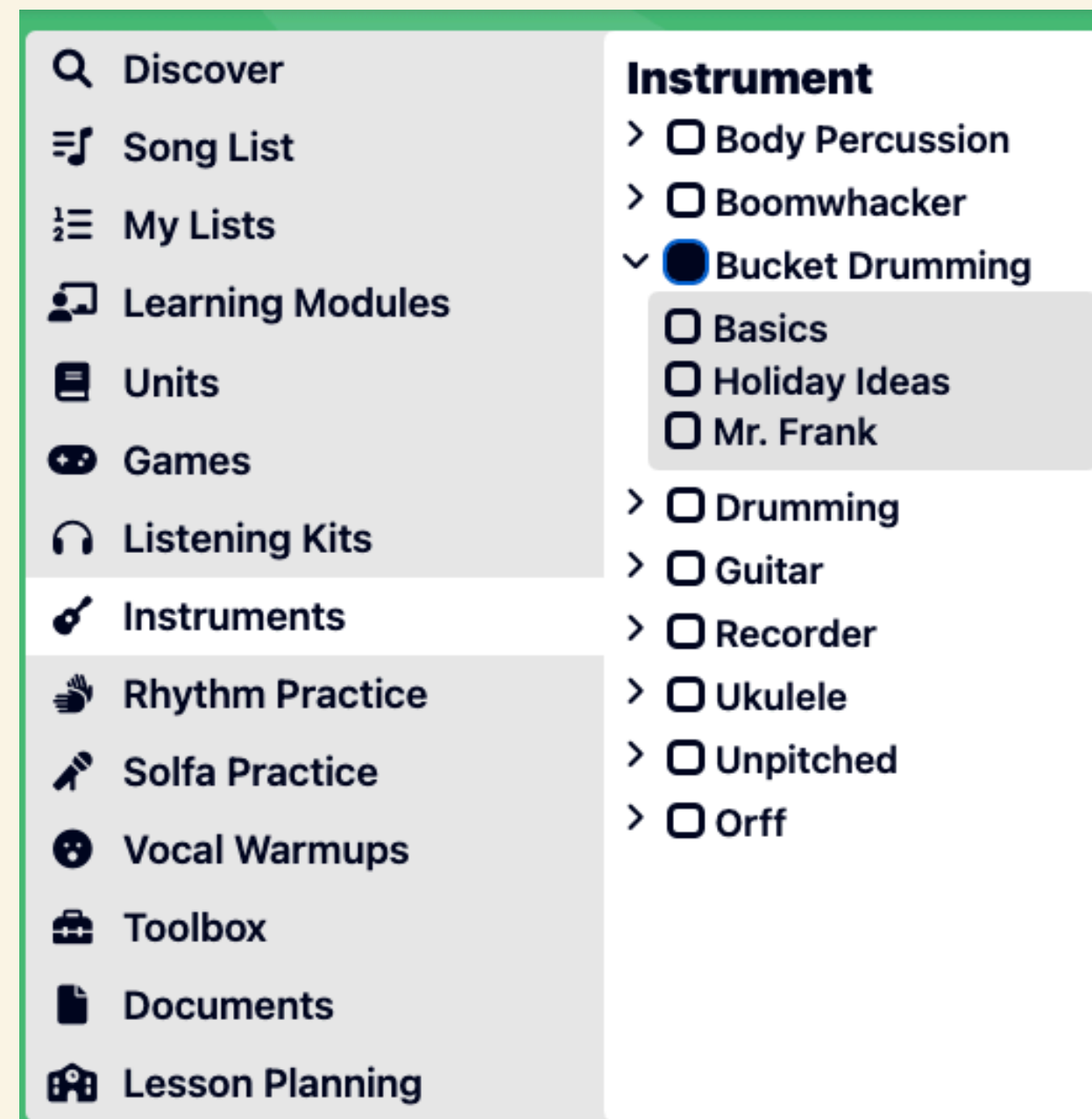
Unit Approach – Teach the bucket drums as a standalone unit. This approach allows you to introduce many musical skills quickly and then transfer those skills to other areas.

Embedded Approach – Teach brief lessons to gradually introduce skills. Can be used to reinforce what concepts/skills students are already working on.

Where on MPO?

Left-Hand Menu – Select Instruments – Bucket Drumming

- Basics
- Holiday Ideas
- Mr. Frank



GETTING STARTED...

Drumsticks

To hold drumsticks, (or wooden spoons) pinch the stick between your thumb and the knuckle of your pointer finger. Loosely wrap the other three fingers around the stick.



Don't use a fist grip.



Don't use a pointer grip.

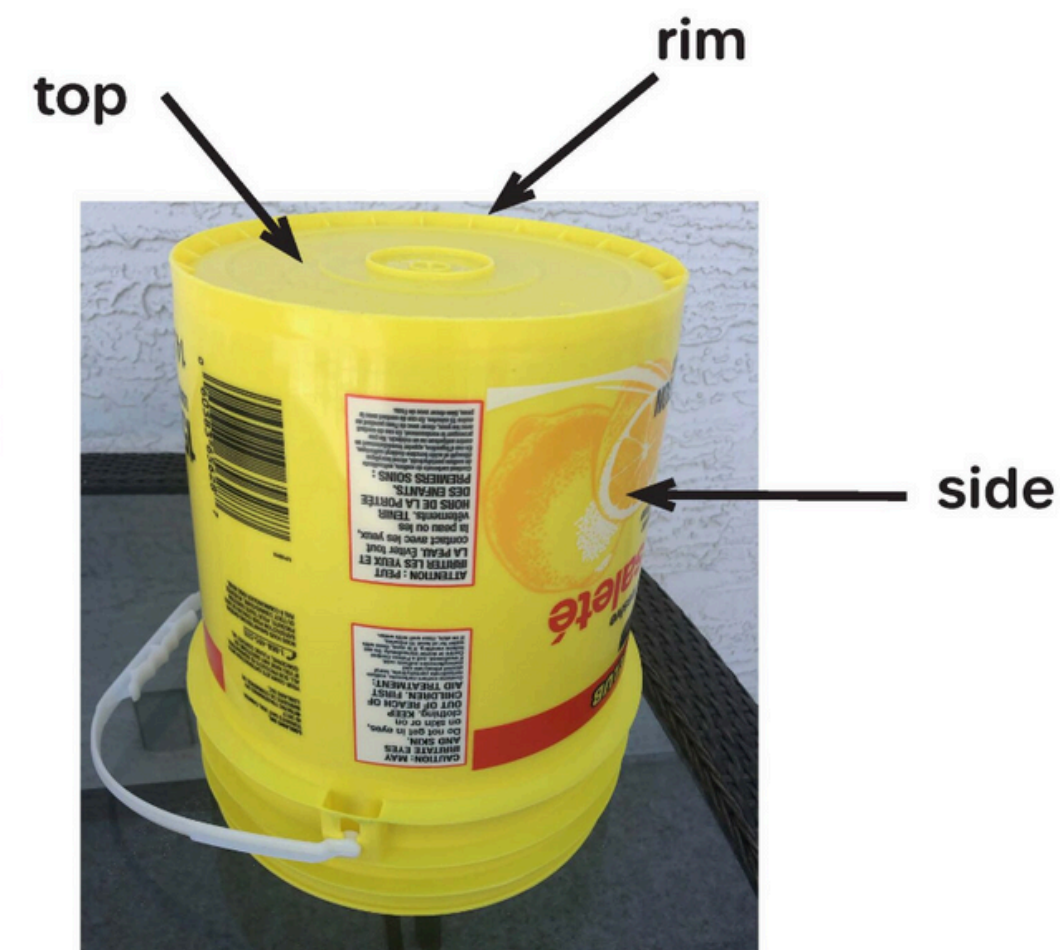


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Parts of the Bucket



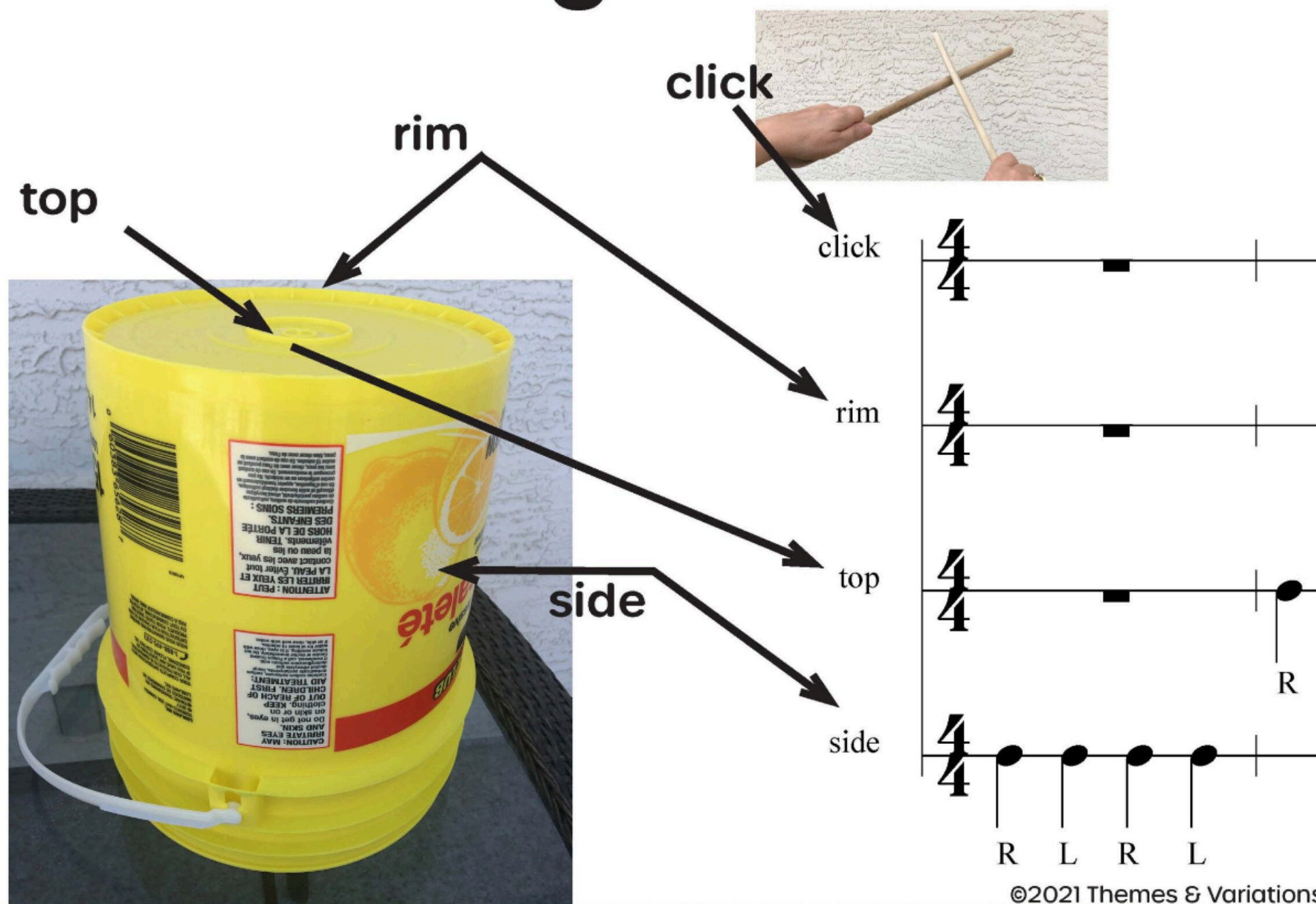
click sticks



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GETTING STARTED...

Reading the Score



The diagram illustrates the components of a yellow bucket used for musical play. Arrows point from the bucket to the following labels:

- top**: Points to the top surface of the bucket.
- rim**: Points to the upper edge of the bucket.
- side**: Points to the side of the bucket.
- click**: Points to a small inset image showing two hands clicking sticks together.

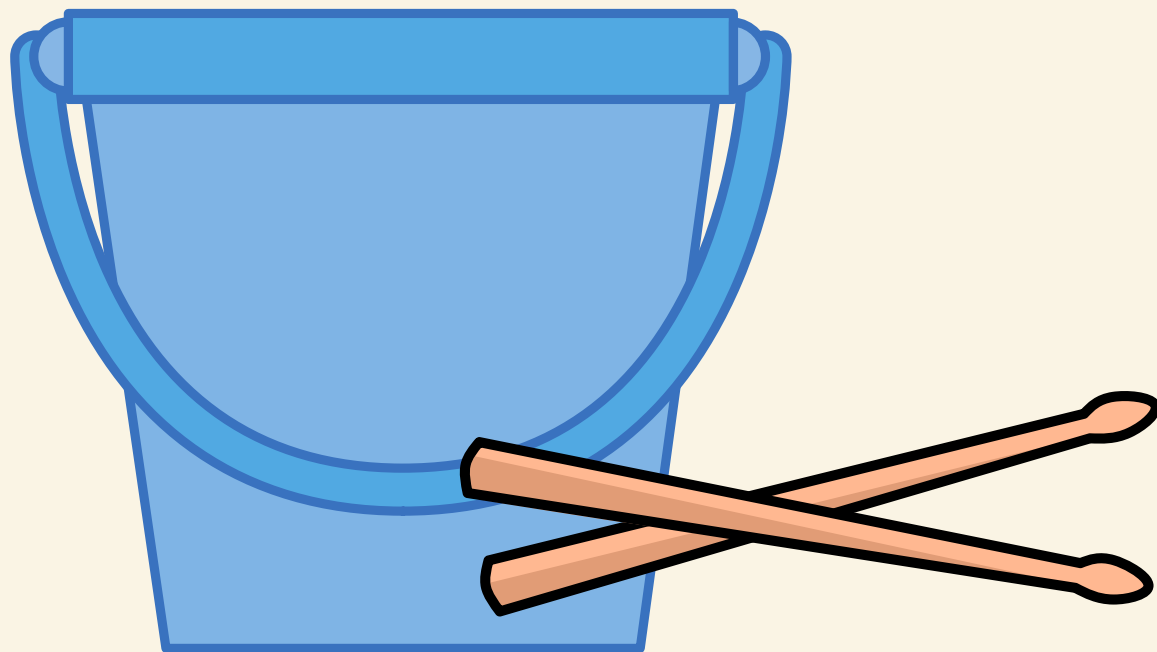
Below the bucket, there are four musical staves, each with a 4/4 time signature:


- Staff 1: A single black square note on the first line.
- Staff 2: A single black square note on the first line.
- Staff 3: A single black square note on the first line, followed by a black dot on the first line labeled 'R'.
- Staff 4: A sequence of four black dot notes on the first line, labeled 'R', 'L', 'R', 'L' from left to right.

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Warm-Up #1:

- Simple Echo Patterns
 - Work through each part of the bucket. Once secure, introduce echo patterns that move to different parts of the bucket within the same rhythm.






Warm-Up #2:

- Eight Beat Blitz

Use the pattern below and switch between using top, rim, and side of bucket.

8 beats R Hand, 8 Beats L Hand

8 Beats Alternate, 8 Beats Both Hands



Warm-Up #3:

- 8-4-2-1

8 beats R Side, 8 beats L Side

8 beats R Top, 8 beats L Top

8 beats R Rim, 8 beats L Rim

8 beats Tap Sticks (R hand top),

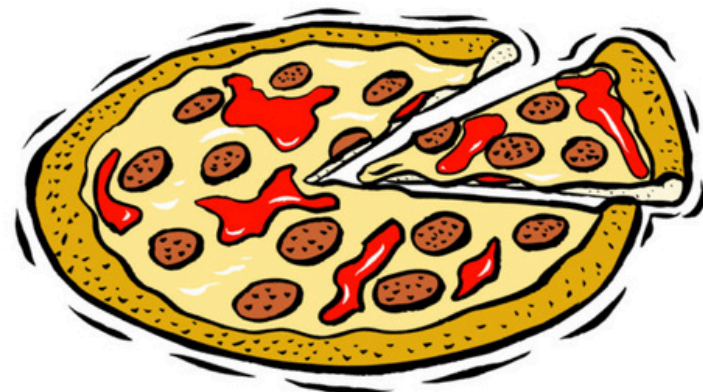
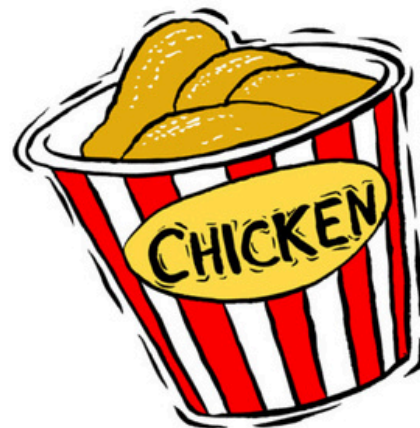
8 beats Tap Sticks (L hand on top)

Try again with 4 beats, then 2, and 1!

Pizza Hut

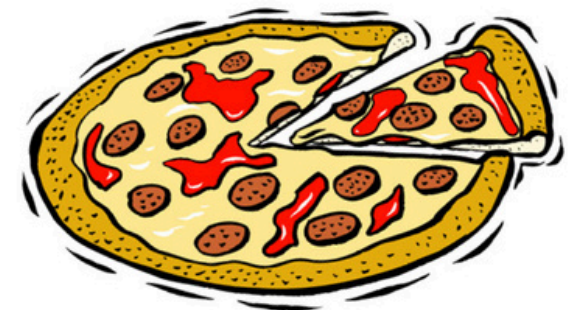
A Pizza Hut

A Pizza Hut, a Pizza Hut,
A Kentucky Fried Chicken
and a Pizza Hut.
A Pizza Hut, a Pizza Hut,
A Kentucky Fried Chicken
and a Pizza Hut.



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McDonald's, McDonald's,
A Kentucky Fried Chicken
and a Pizza Hut.
McDonald's, McDonald's,
A Kentucky Fried Chicken
and a Pizza Hut!



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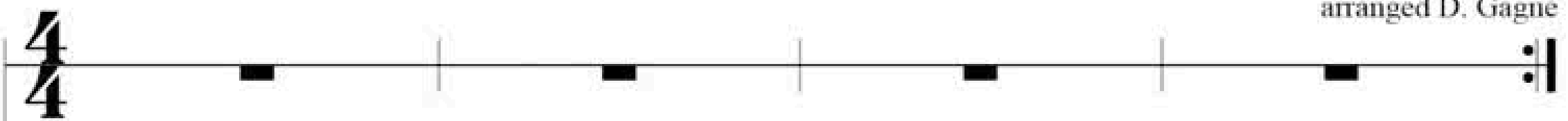
This activity focuses on alternating sticks to a steady beat!

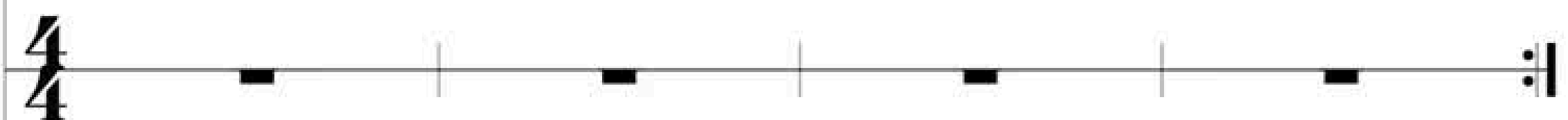


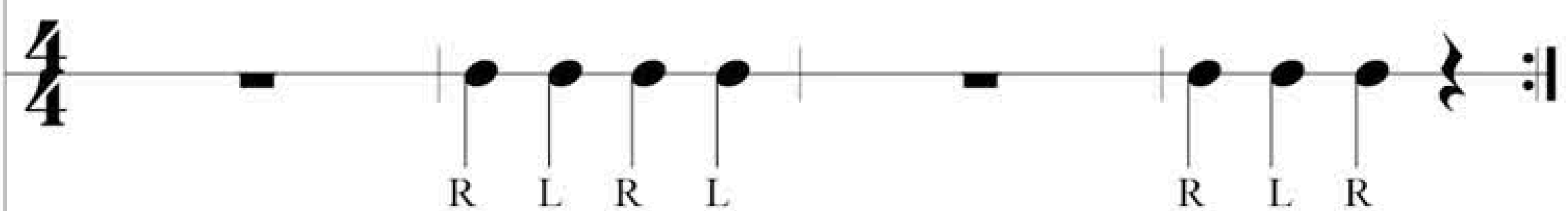
Bucket Drumming Basics

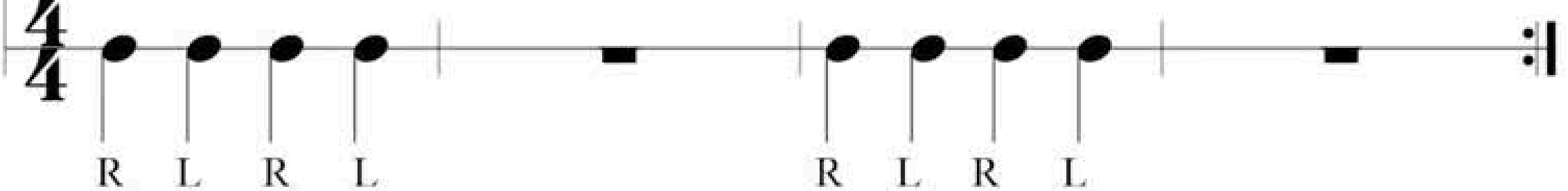
- A sequenced approach to gradually add in more complexity.
- Quick reading exercises to get students familiar with bucket drumming staff.
- Can be used as warm-ups, integrated within your program, or part of a unit.
- The unit on MPO also includes composition activities.

Side and Top

click $\frac{4}{4}$  arranged D. Gagné

rim $\frac{4}{4}$ 

top $\frac{4}{4}$ 

side $\frac{4}{4}$ 

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Rim and Click

click

rim

top

side

4/4

4/4

4/4

4/4

R L R L

R L R L

Top Click Side

click

rim

top

side

RL RL RL RL

RL RL RL

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Improvise!

**No set plans, go with the flow,
Listen to the rhythm and then you go!**

- Say a 2 or 4 beat rhythm.
- One, two, ready go!
- Try with body percussion first, then transfer to bucket drums.
- Students improvise until they see you move hands/sticks to shoulders.
- Add a backing track!





Pepperoni Pizza

A Let's make **pepperoni pizza**, Let's make **pizza pie!**

B Shape the dough and add the sauce
and meat on top and **mozzarella cheese!**

C **P** - **I** - **ZZ** - **A**

Rondo Form:
A B A C A

 **Stomp**

 **Pat**

 **Clap**

 **Snap**

Pepperoni Pizza

Part A

Top

Side

4/4

4/4

Let's make

Let's make

pep-per-o-ni piz-za!

piz-za pie!

R L R L R L

R L R

B B

B B

Pepperoni Pizza

Part B:

Click Sticks

Rim

Shape the dough and add the sauce and meat on top and moz-za-rel-la cheese!

R L R L R L R L R L R L

Pepperoni Pizza

Part C:

Click Sticks

Rim

Top

Side

4/4

P

I
B

Z
B

Z
B

A
B

The musical score for Part C is written for four drum parts: Click Sticks, Rim, Top, and Side. The time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two measures by a vertical line. The first measure contains the following notes: Click Sticks (P, quarter note), Rim (I, quarter note), Top (B, quarter note), and Side (B, quarter note). The second measure contains the following notes: Click Sticks (B, quarter note), Rim (B, quarter note), Top (Z, quarter note), and Side (A, quarter note). The notes are written on a five-line staff for each part. The notes are: P (P), I (I), Z (Z), Z (Z), A (A). The notes are written on a five-line staff for each part. The notes are: P (P), I (I), Z (Z), Z (Z), A (A).



A

Top

Side

4/4

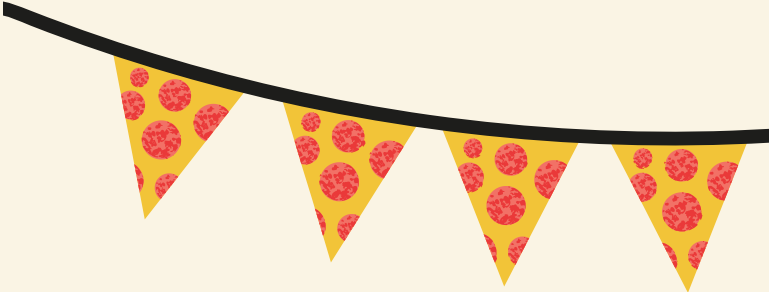
Let's make

pep-per-o-ni piz-za!

piz-za pie!

R L R L R L

B B



B

Click Sticks

Rim

4/4

Shape the dough and add the sauce and meat on top and

moz-za-rel-la cheese!

R L R L R L R L

C

Click Sticks

Rim

Top

Side

4/4

p

I

Z Z

B B

A

B

Rondo Form:
A B A C A

Pepperoni Pizza

Kids Demo



Try again and
“think” the
words!



Pepperoni Pizza

Create a B Section

1 Sound

- Cheese
- Sauce
- Dough
- Crust
- Ham
- Shrimp
- Beef
- Pork

2 Sounds

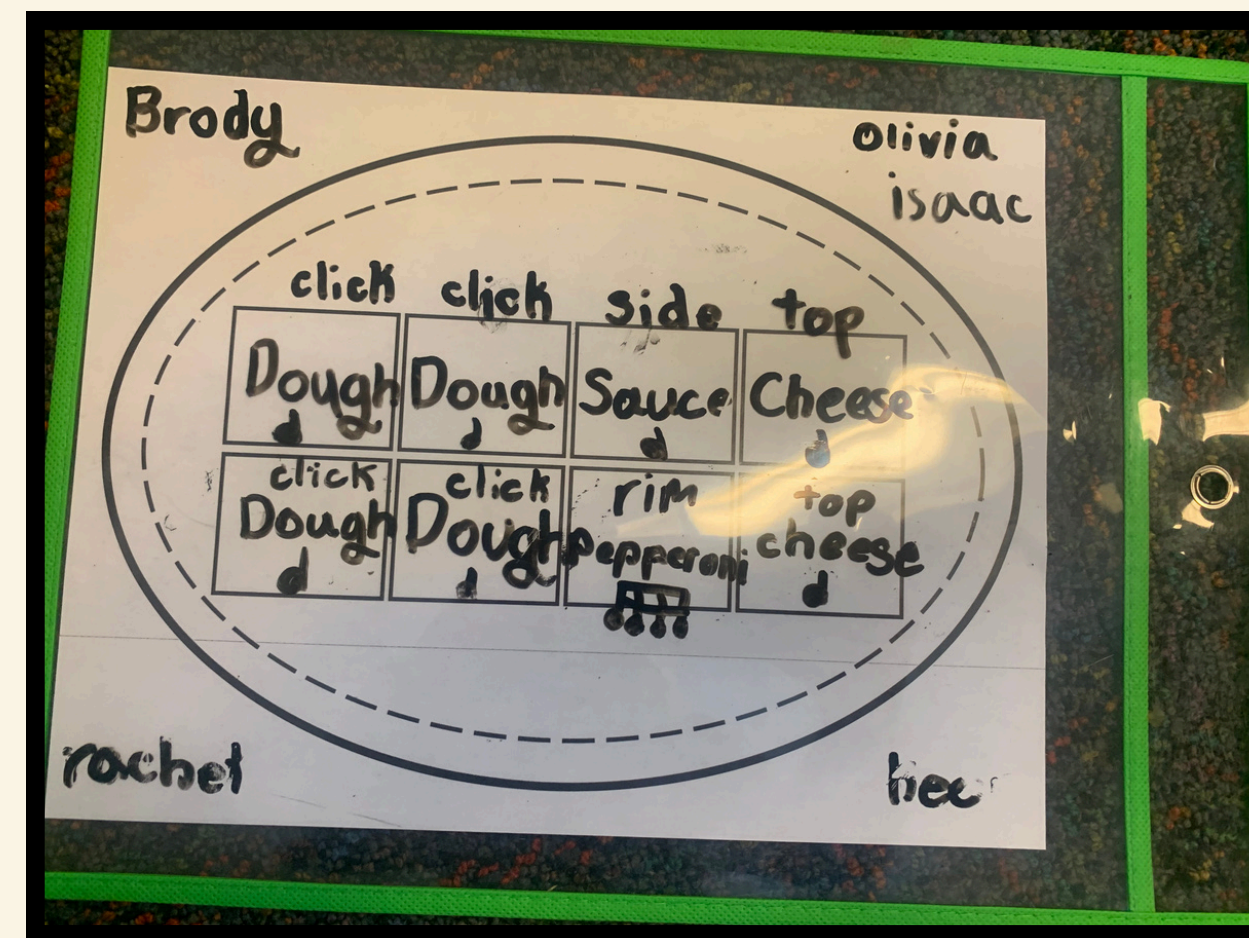
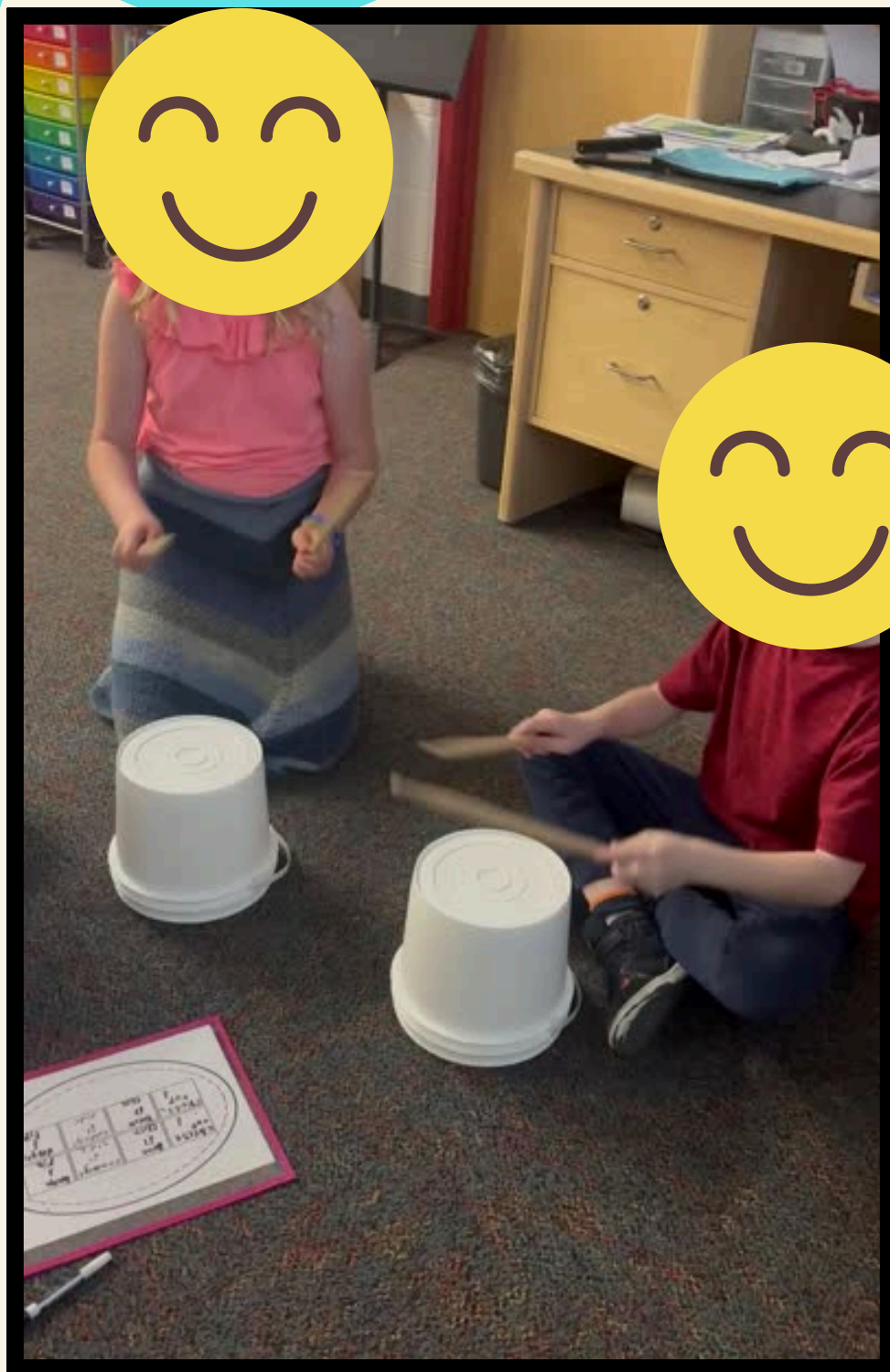
- Garlic
- Olives
- Peppers
- Sausage
- Mushrooms
- Bacon
- Chicken

4 Sounds

- Pepperoni
- Mozzarella
- Marinara
- Parmigiana
- Arugula

Pepperoni Pizza

Student Examples



Hand Independence

Fun Ways to Practice

- Walk around room and clap only when you step on your right foot.
- Clap twice for every step you take around the room.
- Practice drumming on the floor. Tap your right hand twice as often as your left.





8 beat intro

10. Surfin' Rock

Click $\frac{4}{4}$

Rim $\frac{4}{4}$ R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R

Top $\frac{4}{4}$

Side $\frac{4}{4}$ *mf*


Click $\frac{4}{4}$

Rim $\frac{4}{4}$ R R R R R R R R


Top $\frac{4}{4}$

Side $\frac{4}{4}$ L L L L L L L L

5



Pop and Holiday Playalongs

- Mr. Frank Arrangements on Musicplay
 - Up On the Housetop
 - March from The Nutcracker
 - Radioactive – Imagine Dragons
 - Sunroof – Nicky Youre and dazy
- 

BUCKET DRUMMING



Level 2

MISTER
BOOM BOOM
MusicPlayPatrol




Radioactive – Bucket Drums

Introduction: 32 Beats

A

Play 8x




top top rim top top rim

R R L R R L

B

Play 4x




click click top top top top

R L R L

C

Play 4x

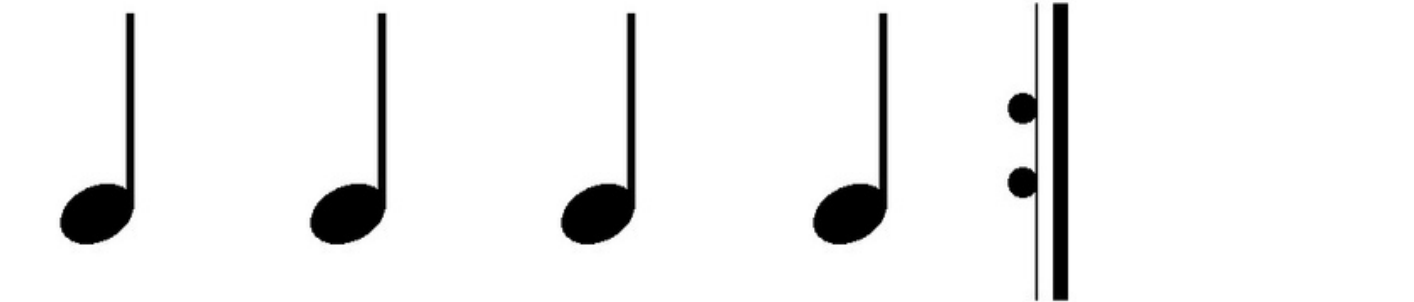


click top side side

LR LR LR LR

D

1st time floor, 2nd repeat side, 3rd repeat rim, 4th repeat top

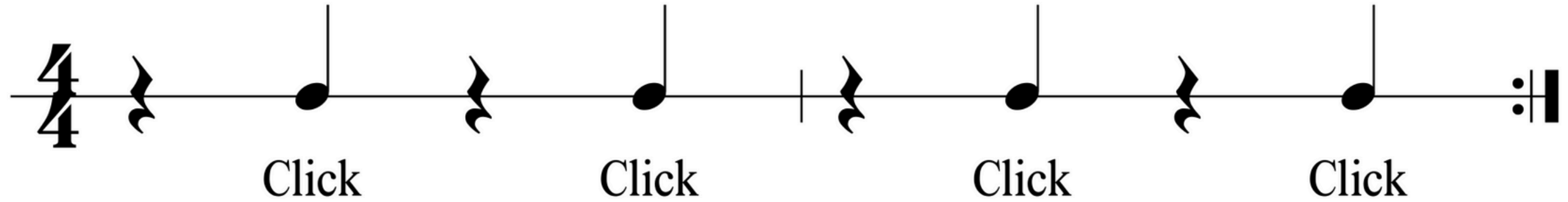


Form:

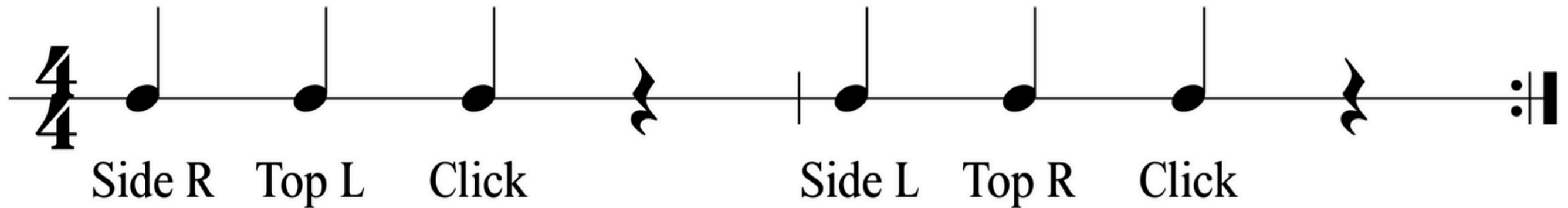
A **B** **C** **A** **B** **C** **D** **B** **C**

Sunroof – Bucket Drums

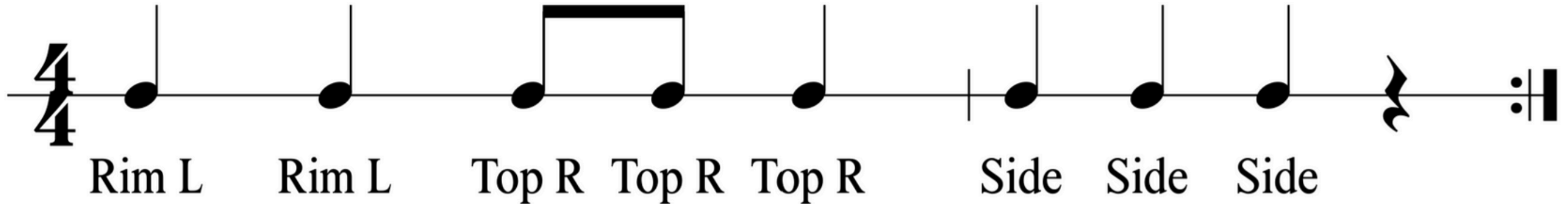
Intro:



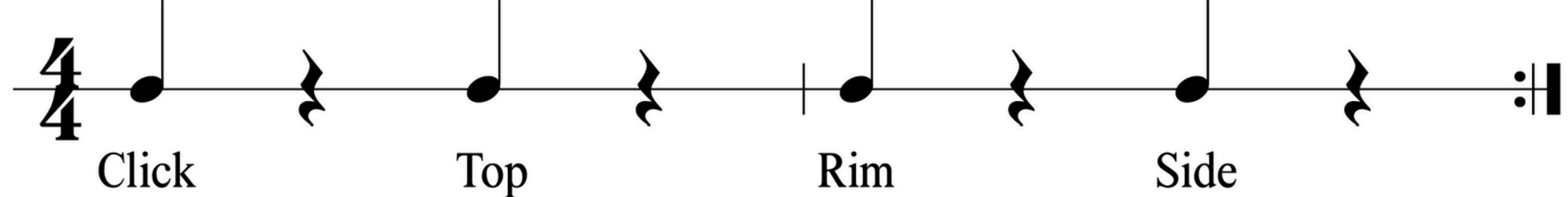
A



B

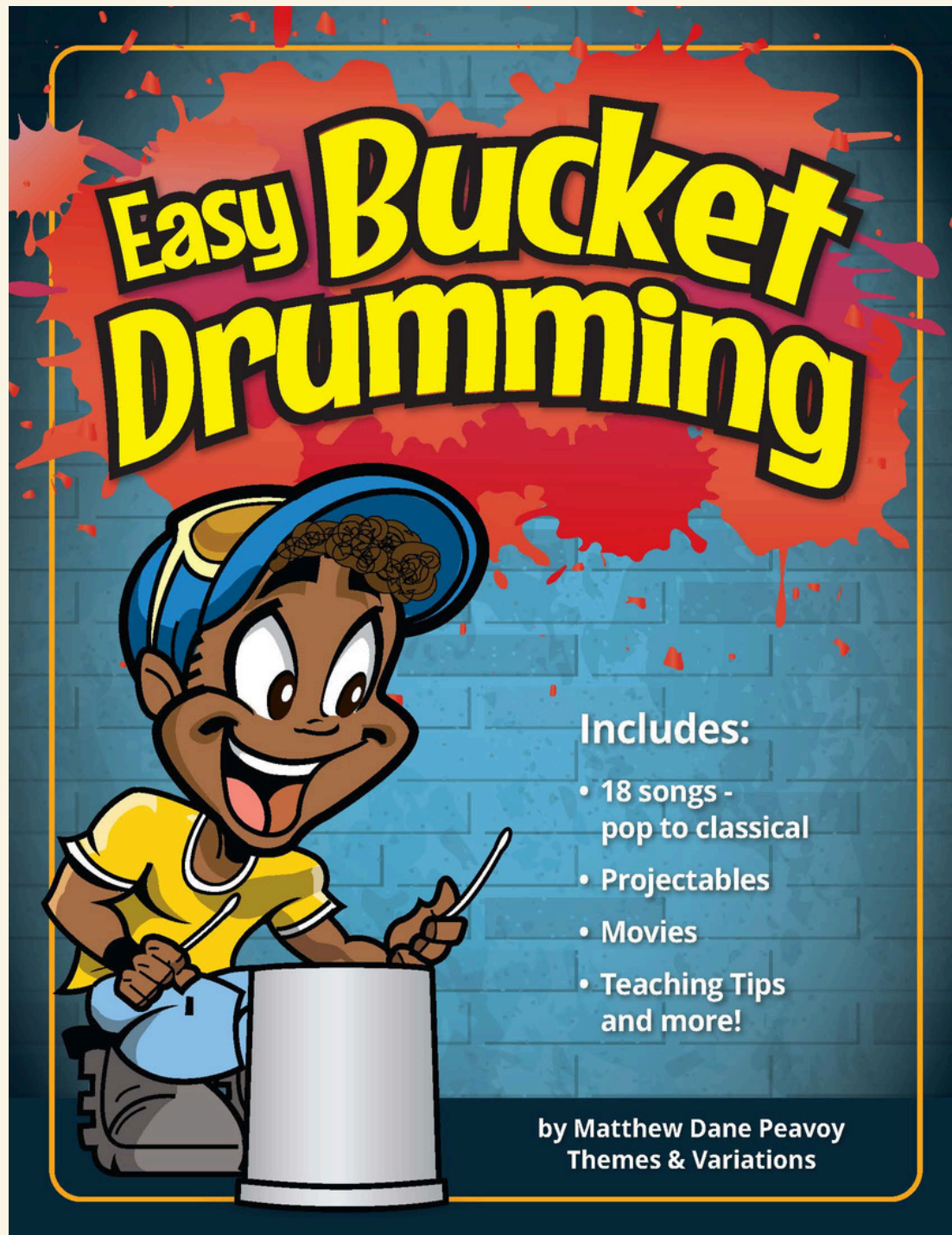


C



Form: Intro (4x), **A** (4x), **B** (4x), **C** (4x), **A** (8x), **B** (4x), C (4x), **A** (4x), **B** (8x)

Easy Bucket Drumming

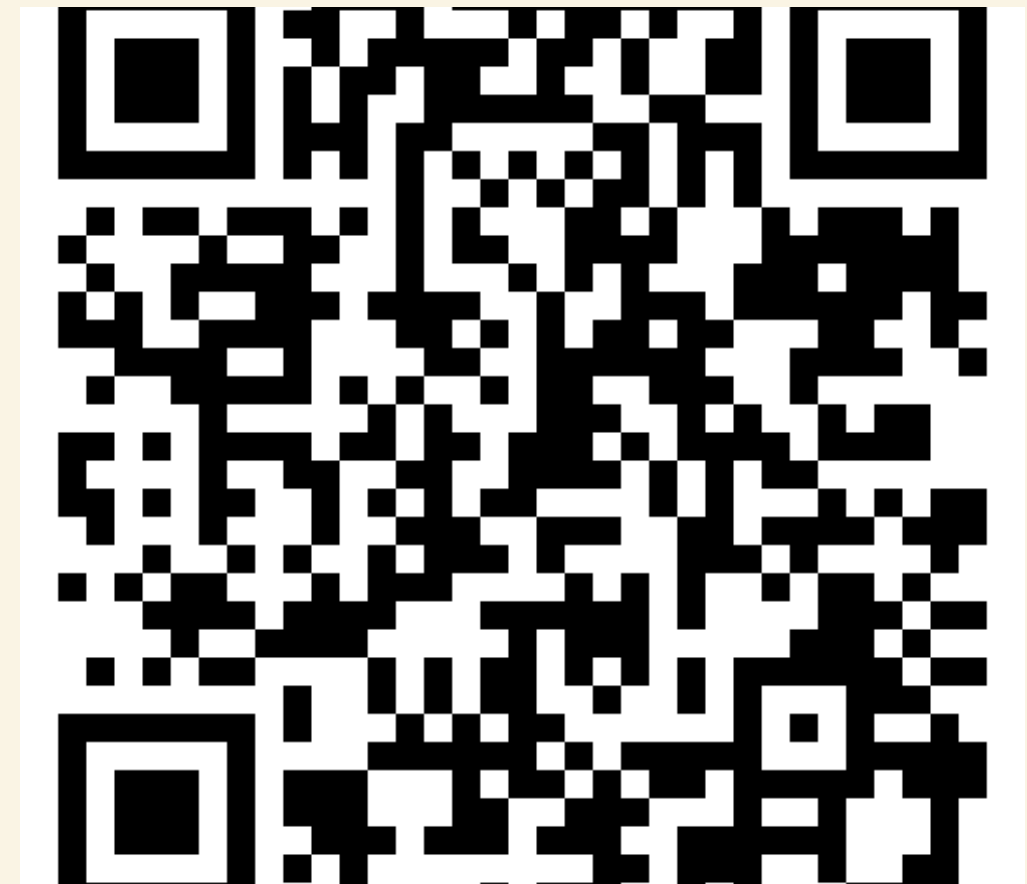


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