

STACY WERNER - SEPTEMBER 2023

## WHY CENTERS IN THE MUSIC ROOM?

- Play based learning
- Student directed learning
- Encourage collaboration, responsibility and problem solving
- Differentiate to meet the needs of different learners
- Teacher acts as a facilitator
- Teacher can use the time to assess students one on one
- Centers are hands-on, engaging, and fun!

## QUESTIONS FOR GETTING STARTED . . .

- What grade levels are you planning for? (Do K-2, then 3-5)
- How much time do you have?
- How many students do you have in each class?
- What type of work spaces do you have available?
- How can you do centers while teaching multiple grade levels each day?
- What concepts do you want students to work on?
- How can you differentiate centers to meet all the learning needs?
- How can I prepare centers fast?

## ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT:

- Select 4-6 centers, depending on your class size.
- Allow 5-10 minutes per center (you may need multiple class periods)
- Create groups yourself.
- Have defined spaces. (use tables, desks, bins, music stands, signs, etc)
- Separate quiet and noisy activities.
- Do not introduce too much new material.
- Use a signal to move to next center.
- Consider leaving one empty center for students who finish early.
- Leave extra time for clean up.
- Use one center for assessment.

# (BEFORE) THE FIRST DAY ...

- Go through and demonstrate every center. To make this move faster, select a few centers that students have used before as whole class games or activities.
- 2. Place students in groups of 3-6.
- 3. Each group fills out a center group card.
- 4. Assign groups to center and fill out center tracking sheet.
- 5. Groups rotate every 5-10 minutes.
- 6. Keep center group cards and tracking sheets together for next class.

Center Group Card: Class: Group Name:	Center Group Card: Class: Group Name:
Group Members:	Group Members:
2 3 4	2 3
5 6	5

Center Name:	Center Name:
Center Groups:	Center Groups:
Center Name:	Center Name:
Center Groups:	Center Groups:
Center Name:	Center Name:
Center Groups:	Center Groups:

# DIY CENTERS...

In this section, I will share with you some centers that have been successful that I have made with purchased craft supplies or additional materials. The students have enjoyed these centers, but there is a higher financial cost and some additional preparation time to get started.

## LEGO INSTRUMENT BUILDING

#### **Materials Required:**

- Large Bin
- Various pieces of Lego (use more basic bricks then technical pieces)

Use this video to introduce the center:

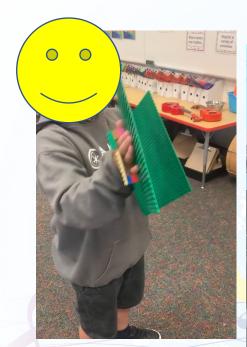
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7kjTV3OrY4s

Use this video to introduce what is a percussion instrument:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P8y5azcjKs0

Encourage students to make an instrument that they can hit, shake, or scrape. Or maybe it can do all three!

# LEGO INSTRUMENT BUILDING







## BUSTED GAME

#### **Materials Required:**

- Large popsicle sticks
- Can also use duplo lego blocks
- Tall round plastic container (I use old tennis ball containers).

#### **Game Directions:**

- 1. Students work in groups of 4-5. Students sit in a circle. Decide who goes first.
- 2. Student selects a stick and places it in front of the, then says and claps the rhythm on the stick.
- 3. The next student does the same. The students continue passing the container and selecting one stick at a time and saying/clapping all the rhythms in front of them.
- 4. If the student selects a stick that says "Busted", they put all their sticks back in the container.

# BUSTED GAME



## SINGING PUPPETS

#### **Materials Required:**

- Various puppets
- Small table with black table cloth for puppet stage

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Students work together to make a puppet show, but the puppets have to sing throughout the show with one another.
- 2. Start with the puppets having singing conversation. (first experience in center, or try as a whole class activity)
- 3. Set up puppet stage and encourage them to make a singing puppet show.

# SINGING PUPPETS



## KEYBOARDS

#### **Materials Required:**

- Electric keyboards and pianos

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Let students play and explore on the keyboards.
- 2. Ask some guiding questions:
  - 1. Which side is high, which side is low?
  - 2. Can you play on just the black keys or white keys?
  - 3. Do you see any patterns on the keyboard?



# Super Simple Centers K-1



#### **Includes**

- PDFs to print OR Kit with printed color copies
- Audio tracks
- Teacher's guide
- Organizational materials for setting up centers
- Disk (or download option)

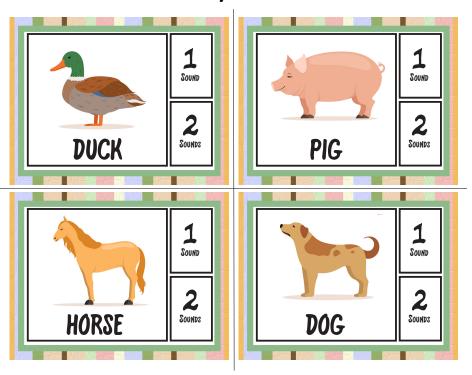
#### **K-1 Centers**

- Animal Snap
- Beat Keeper
- Carnival of the Animals Listening
- Hide, Sing, Play (Audiation)
- Loud and Quiet Sort
- Squishy Music (playdough)
- Fast and Slow Movement
- Make a Melody
- Compose a Rhythm
- Worksheet Centers to practice high/low, loud/quiet, fast/slow
- 15 CENTERS in this resource!



### ANIMAL SNAP!

#### Level 1 – one/two sounds



Level 2 – match rhythm



Children take turns looking at animal cards and paper-clipping or clothes pinning the answer. Student check their answer on the answer on the "cheat sheet". They keep correct answers. The child with the most in pile wins.



### ANIMAL SNAP!

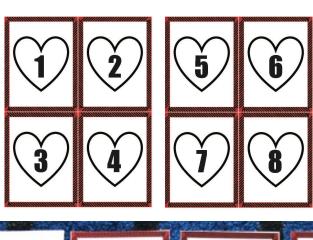




Children take turns looking at animal cards and paper-clipping or clothes pinning the answer. Student check their answer on the answer on the "cheat sheet". They keep correct answers. The child with the most in pile wins.



### BEAT KEEPER!





One student points to the beat, the other students play.

Turn over 1-2 cards and stay silent for the rest.

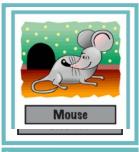
Choose a new conductor and play again.

Try with different instruments.

Choose 8 or 16 beats.

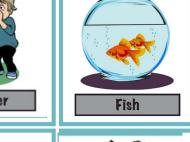


### LOUD AND QUIET























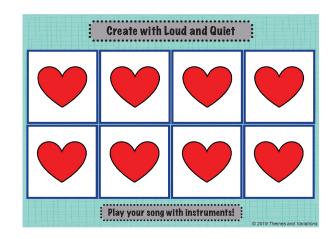








K-1: Sort the cards into loud or quiet piles. Then, create a loud/quiet composition





## Sauishy Music



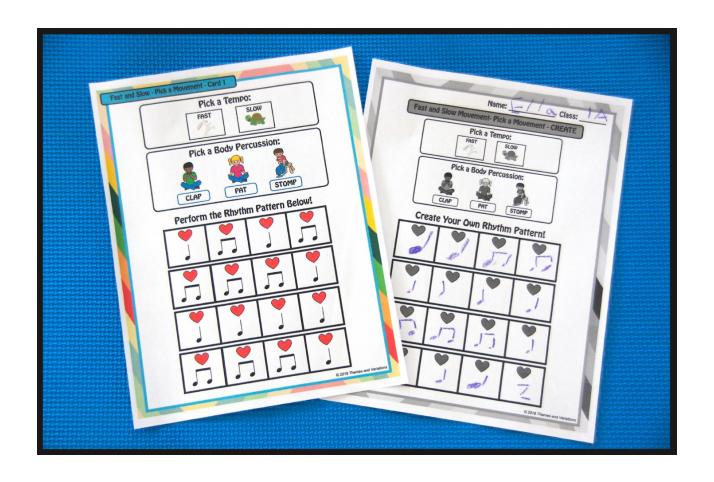




K-1: Make playdough music symbols. Extension – Use loose parts to make symbols.



#### FAST AND SLOW MOVEMENT



Choose one of 11 cards and perform the rhythm with body percussion. Choose whether to do it fast or slow, and select the body percussion to use.



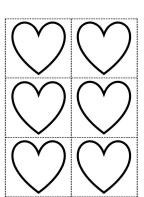
## MAKE A MELODY

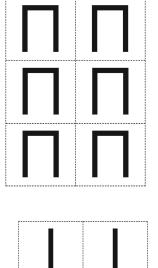
=			
	Make a Melody Three Line Staff  Compose your own melody below. Play your song using a pitched percussion instrument.		Make a Melody One Line Staff  Compose your own melody below. Play your song using a pitched percussion instrument.
		_	
	Make a Melody Five Line Staff  Compose your own melody below. Play your song using a pitched percussion instrument.		Make a Melody Two Line Staff  Compose your own melody below. Play your song using a pitched percussion instrument.

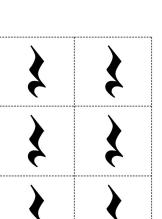
Students create melodies and can play or sing compositions. Place inside plastic covers and use with dry erase markers.

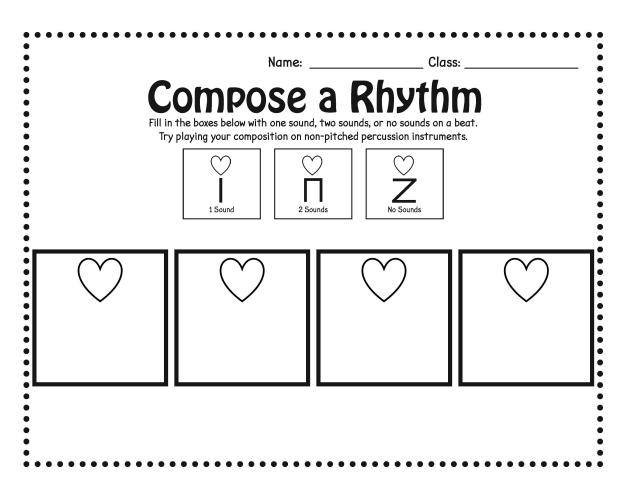


## COMPOSE A RHYTHM







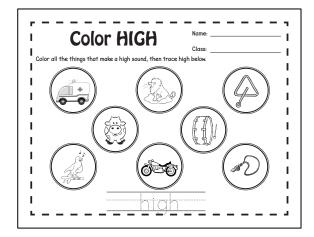


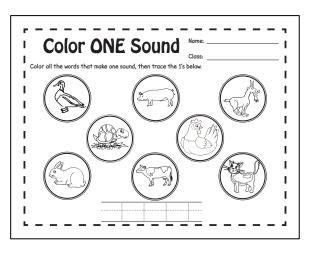
Create rhythm compositions with ta, ti-ti and rest.

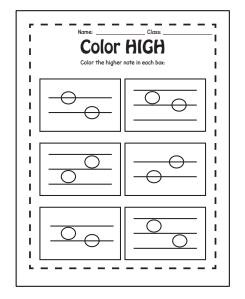
Use pre-made cards (cut and laminte),
or place inside plastic covers and use with dry erase markers.

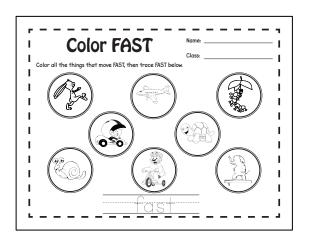


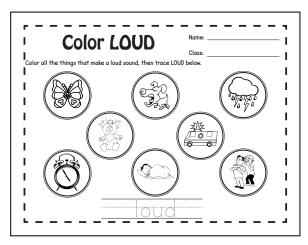
## WORKSHEETS

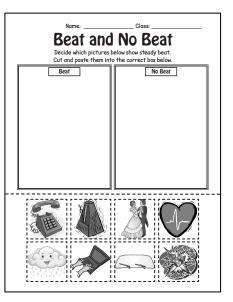












Place inside plastic covers and use with dry erase markers. Saves with photo copy cost and waste.

# Super Simple Centers



**Grade 2-3 Centers** 

- Cosmic Rhythms
- Melody Maker Dice
- Squishy Staff
- Soundscape Creation
- Color the Music
- Instrument Name sort
- Solfa Snap
- Rhythm Tracker

#### **K-1 Centers**

- Animal Snap
- Beat Keeper
- Carnival of the Animals Listening
- Hide, Sing, Play (Audiation)
- Loud and Quiet Sort
- Squishy Music (playdough)
- Fast and Slow Movement
- Make a Melody
- Compose a Rhythm
- Worksheet Centers

#### Includes

- PDFs to print OR Kit with printed color copies
- Audio tracks
- Teacher's guide
- Organizational materials for setting up centers
- Disk (or download

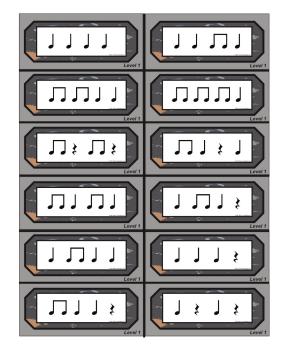


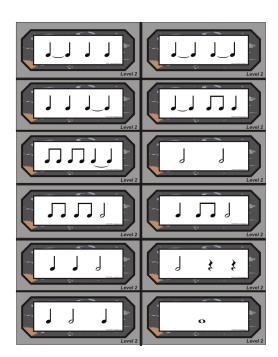
### Cosmic Rhythms

Children choose a card. They either clap a rhythm or follow the directions. They keep the cards they clap correctly. Different level cards to differentiate.

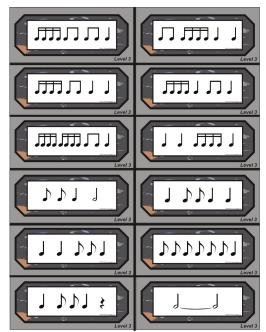
Black Hole – lose all their cards Shooting Star – take card from another player Blast Off – take another card

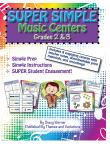
Player with the most cards wins!









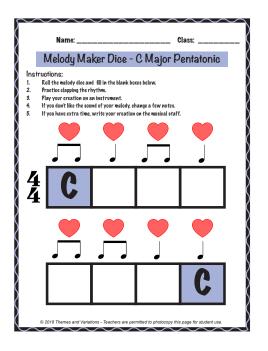


### MELODY MAKER DICE

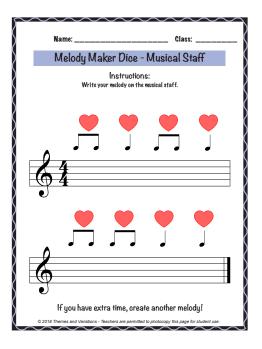


Children roll the melody dice and create a melody. This is a great melody writing template for Gr. 2-3!

Place writing template in plastic cover and use dry erase markers to save on paper use!







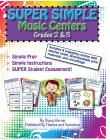


## SQUISHY STAFF



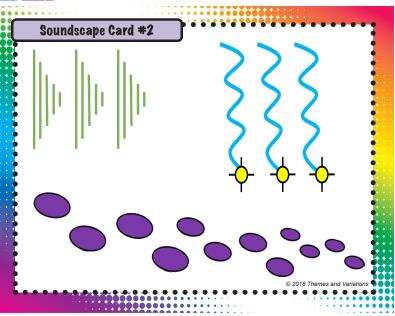


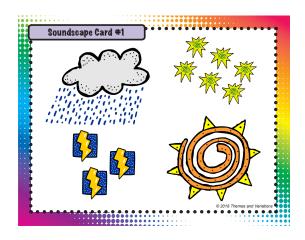
Children trace the treble clef and notes with playdough.



### SOUND SCAPE CREATIONS



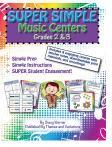




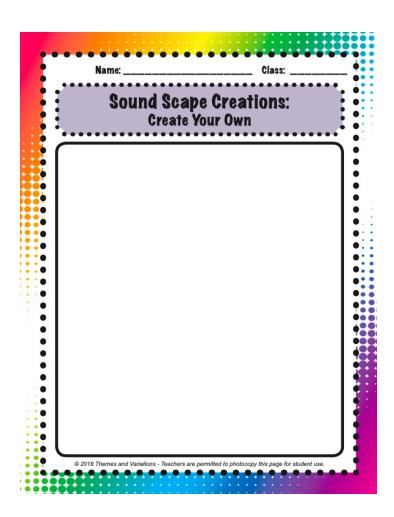
Children choose instruments for the different shapes/pictures.

One student points to pictures, while others play.

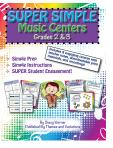
Can place inside plastic sheet covers and use dry erase markers to label what instruments to use for each shape.



## SOUND SCAPE CREATIONS



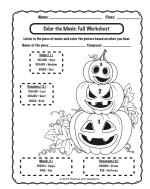
Extension: Students create their own shapes and select instruments.



### COLOR THE MUSIC



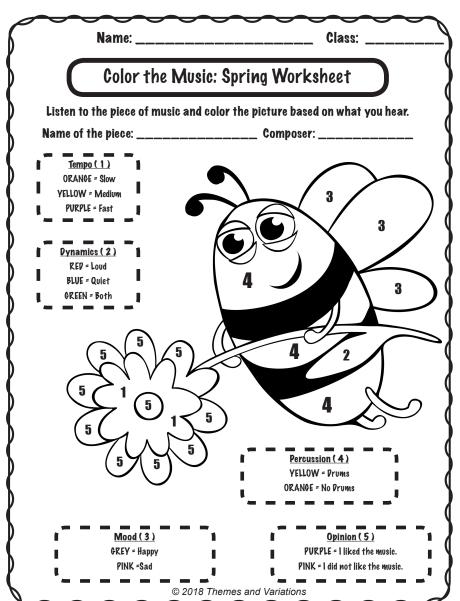


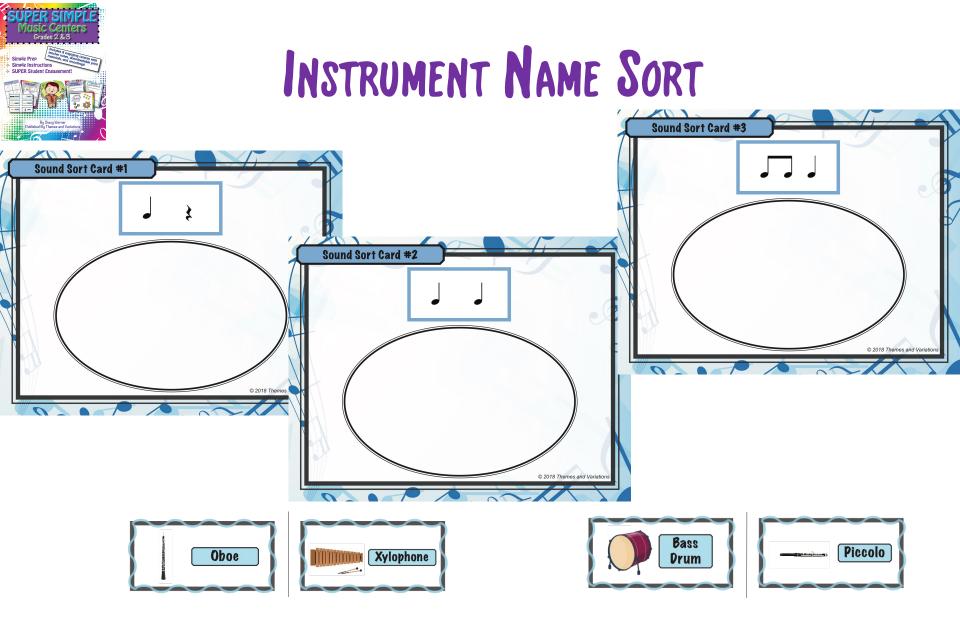




Children listen to a piece of music and color a listening glyph.

Audio is included!

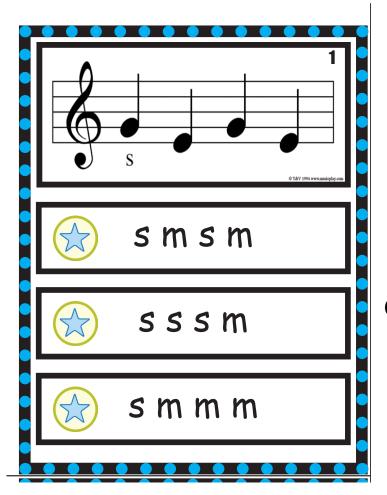




What rhythm is "xylophone?" Sort the instrument names. After sorting, create a word rhythm composition of your own.



## INSTRUMENT NAME SORT



SOLFA SNAP: Cheat Sheet			
1. s	m s m	17. ss ml ss m	33. dd dd r m
2. ss m ss m		18. s ml s m	34. m mm r d
3. s m ss m 4. ss mm ss m 5. ss m s m 6. s mm s mm 7. s m s 8. s mm s 9. sm sm sm s 10. s mm s mm		19. ss ml s m	35. dd dr m r
		20. ss II ss mm	36. mm r d
		21. ss mm dd d	37. l s m d
		22. d m s s	38. ls sm s
		23. dd dm s dd 39. ls sm rm d	
		24. d m ss s	40. ss sl sm d
		25. sm sm dd d	41. s md rr d
		26. s md s md	42. d m s l
11. s	11. s ss s m 27. s s d		43. dd rr m s
12. s	m	28. dd m dd m	44. sm rm d
13. s	lsm	29. m r d	45. dd dr m s
14. s	ls	30. m rr d	46. m mr dm sm
15. s	sllsm	31. dd mm r m	47. sm Is mr d
16. s sl s m		32. d r m d	48. Is sm r d
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Children take turns looking at solfa patterns and paper-clipping or pinning the correct pattern.

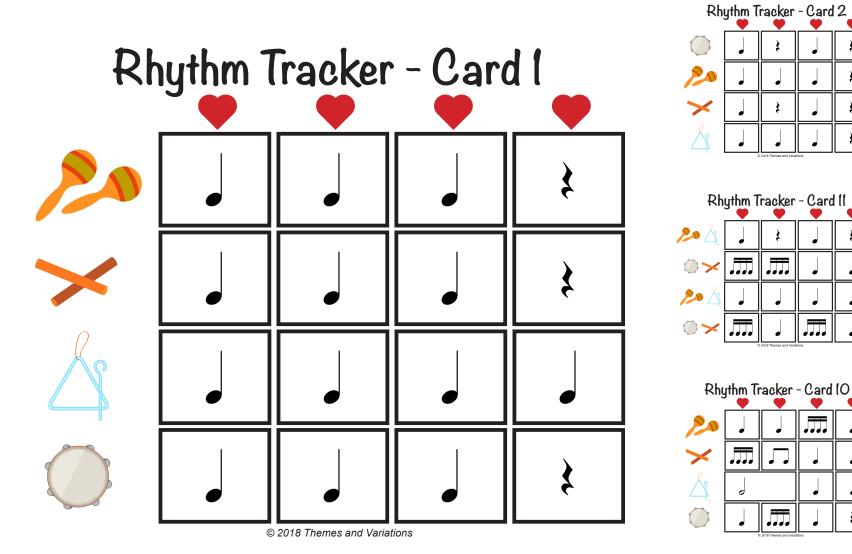
They keep correct answers. The child with the most cards wins.

Includes several sequenced levels: so-mi, la-so-mi, mi-re-do and do-mi-so



#### RHYTHM TRACKER

One child conducts, while the rest of the group plays.



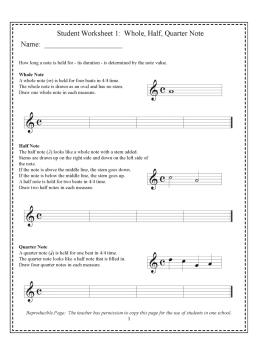


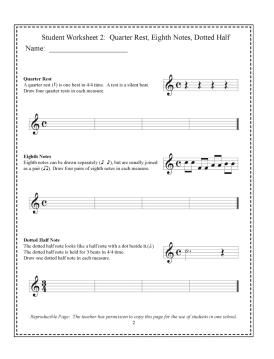
## RHYTHM TRACKER

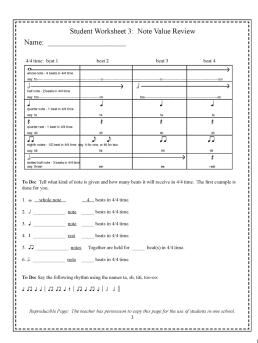
**Extension: Create your own!** 

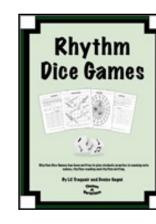
Name:Class:  Rhythm Tracker - Create Your Own!  1. Select from the following rhythms to fill in the boxes below:				
1. Select from the fo	ollowing rhythms to fill in the boxes belo	ow: ] ; , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
	2. Play your creation on instruments	© 2018 Themes and Variations		

## Rhythm Dice Games Centers 7 Worksheets teach/review/assess



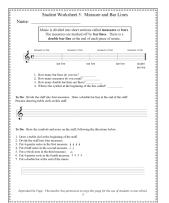




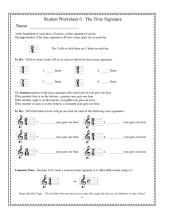












Includes 25 dice!

#### Rhythm Dice Games: Table Talk Rhythm

#### TABLE TALK

What the Game is About: The object of the game is to be the first to cross off every square on your chart.

Materials Needed: Each player needs a copy of the Table Talk Grid and a pencil. Each group needs at least one die.

**Directions:** Each player in turn shakes the die. If you roll a quarter note, you can cross off any of the squares in the first line: quarter note, J, 1 count, or ta. The same applies for each of the other note values. The first player to cross off every square in his chart wins the game.

You could also play this game like Bingo offering prizes for four in a row horizontally, four in a row vertically, and four in a row diagonally.

#### TABLE TALK GRID

Quarter note	ا	1 beat in 4/4	ta
Quarter rest	<b>\$</b>	1 beat in 4/4	sh
Half note	J	2 beats in 4/4	too-oo
Pair of eighth notes	n	1 beat in 4/4	titi
Dotted half note	J.	3 beats in 4/4	three-ee-ee
Whole note	o	4 beats in 4/4	fo-o-o-our

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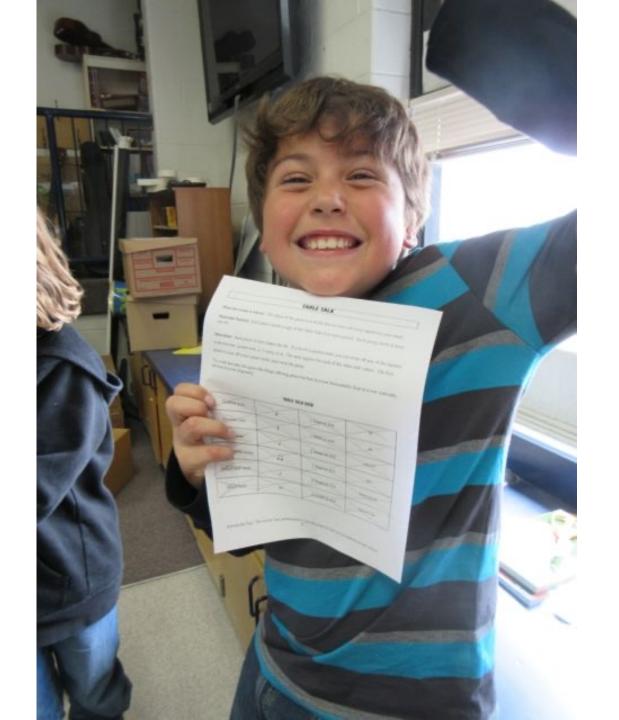


Includes 25 dice!

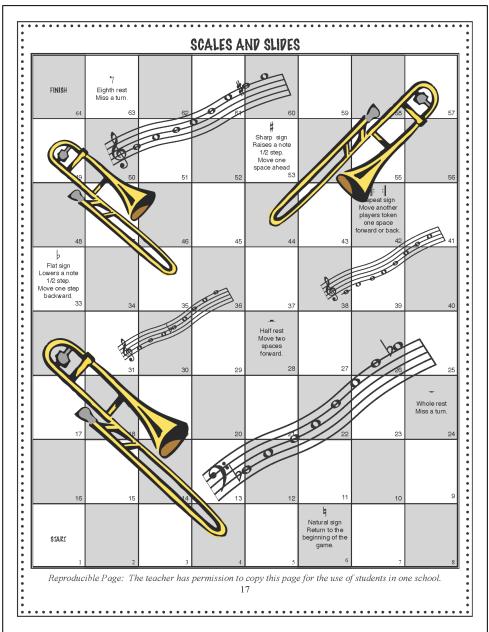
Play with entire class OR Use as a center







# Rhythm Dice Games: Scales and Slides





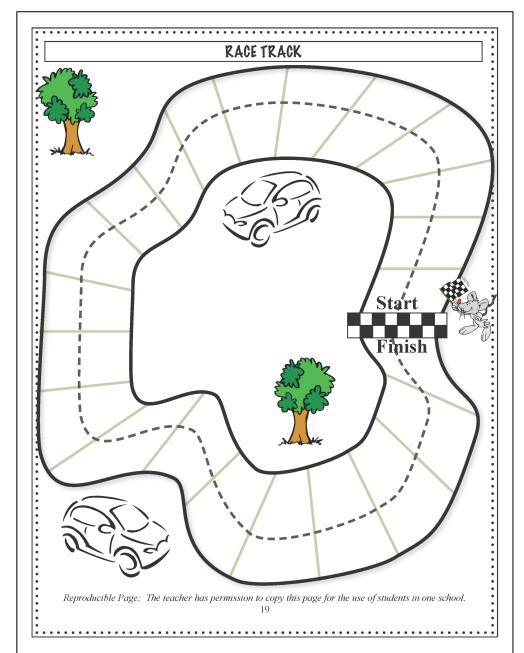


Includes 25 dice!





## Rhythm Dice Games: Race Track







Includes 25 dice!

## Rhythm Dice Games: Add Them Up

#### ADD THEM UP

What the Game is About: The object of the game is to reach a total of 24.

Materials Needed: Each group needs a scorecard, at least one die and a pencil.

**Directions:** Form groups of 2-4 players. Each player in turn shakes the dice and writes down the note value total. For example, if player one rolls a whole note, he'll write down the number four, because a whole note is held for four beats in 4/4 time. Add the note values together so that you have a running total.

You must hit 24 exactly. For the final turn, you won't be able to count your roll if the value is too great. The first person to reach 24, wins.

You can choose other totals to play toward: 16, 24, or 32.

o	J		J	<b>}</b>	J.
whole note	half note	quarter note	pair eighth notes	quarter rest	dotted half note
4 beats in 4/4 time	2 beats	1 beat	1 beat	1 beat	3 beats

#### TEAM PLAY SCORECARD

Player 1:	Player 2:	Player 3:	Player 4:	

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Player throws 2-4 dice and totals the note values. The first player to reach the target wins. (16, 24, 32)





# Values Values

#### **BATTLING NOTE VALUES**

What the Game is About: The object of the game is to reach the highest total.

Materials Needed: Each group needs one scorecard, a pencil, and 2-3 dice.

**Directions:** This is like the traditional card game of War. Form groups of 2 or 3 students. Each player tosses his or her die and the one with the highest note value scores a point. If a tie is rolled, throw again. The winner is the player with the most points.

You could also play this game with bingo chips. Put a pile of bingo chips in the middle of the group. The player with the highest note value takes a bingo chip. Play continues until all the bingo chips are gone. The winner is the player with the most bingo chips at the end of the game.

o	J		J	<b>*</b>	J.	
whole note 4 beats in 4/4 time	half note 2 beats	quarter note 1 beat	pair eighth notes 1 beat	quarter rest 1 beat	dotted half note 3 beats	

#### BATTLING NOTE VALUES SCORECARD

Player 1:	Player 2:	Player 3:	

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Each player throws a dice. The one with the highest note values scores a point. If there's a tie, they duel.

Player with the most points wins.





# Knytnm Dice Games: Snake and Make 4/4

#### SHAKE AND MAKE 4/4

What the Game is About: The object of the game is to fill in a rhythm grid. The last player who plays, wins.

Materials Needed: Each player needs a rhythm grid, one die and a pencil.

**Directions:** Form groups with 2-4 players. Shake the die to determine who goes first. The highest note value on the die shake wins the first turn. Play continues in order.

Player One throws the die and chooses where to put the note value anywhere it fits on his grid. (Notes do not have to be placed on the grid in order.) The play then passes to Player Two who does the same. Put lines through the boxes where the half notes, whole notes and dotted half notes extend as shown in the mini grid below. The pattern must shake out exactly. If you have only one box left, you must shake a note that is held for 1 beat. If you don't, you "pass" on your turn. The first player to complete his grid wins the game. When the complete pattern is filled out, rewrite it onto the regular rhythm staff. Have students perform the composition using a variety of body percussion - pat, clap, stamp, and snap.

0 —			$\longrightarrow$
]_	$\longrightarrow$	] _	$\longrightarrow$
J	J	J	Л
J. —		$\longrightarrow$	\$

Whole note	o	4 beats	Fill 4 squares
Half note	J	2 beats	Fill 2 squares
Quarter note	ا	1 beat	Fill 1 square
Pair eighth notes	Л	1 beat	Fill 1 square
Quarter rest	\$	1 beat	Fill 1 square
Dotted half note	J.	3 beats	Fill 3 squares

#### SHAKE AND MAKE RHYTHM GRID



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The group needs 1 dice and one copy of the template.

Roll the dice and choose where on the grid to put your note. First player to complete the grid wins.

Copy your rhythm from grid to staff and perform the composition.





## Knytnm Dice Games: Snake and Make

#### SHAKE AND MAKE 3/4

What the Game is About: The object of the game is to fill in a rhythm grid. The last player who plays, wins.

Materials Needed: Each player needs a rhythm grid, one die and a pencil.

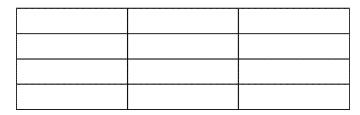
**Directions:** Form groups with 2-4 players. Shake the die to determine who goes first. The highest note value on the dice shake wins the first turn. Play continues in order.

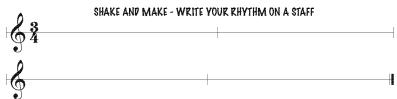
Player One throws the die and chooses where to put the note value anywhere it fits on his grid. (Notes do not have to be placed on the grid in order.) The play then passes to Player Two who does the same. Put lines through the boxes where the half notes and dotted half notes extend as shown in the mini grid below. You can't use the whole note in 3/4 time, so if you shake a whole note, you miss your turn.

The pattern must shake out exactly. If you have only one box left, you must shake a note that is held for 1 beat. If you don't, you "pass" on your turn. The first player to complete his grid wins the game.

When the complete pattern is filled out, rewrite it onto the regular rhythm staff. Have students perform the composition using a variety of body percussion - pat, clap, stamp, and snap.

			Whole note	o	4 beats in 4/4	4 squares - miss a turn
] _	<b></b>	\$	Half note	J	2 beats	Fill 2 squares
		I	Quarter note	١	1 beat	Fill 1 square
ø.	لعالمة	and .	Pair eighth notes	Л	1 beat	Fill 1 square
J. —		$\longrightarrow$	Quarter rest	\$	1 beat	Fill 1 square
You can't use a	a whole note	n 3/4 time	Dotted half note	J.	3 beats	Fill 3 squares





Reproducible Page: The teacher has permission to copy this page for the use of students in one school.

The group needs 1 dice and one copy of the template.

Roll the dice and choose where on the grid to put your note. First player to complete the grid wins.

Copy your rhythm from grid to staff and perform the composition.







### Music Center Kits 1 – 2

Each Kit includes 4-5 copies of each game and all reproducibles, info, etc!



- \* Note Name Games
- \* Tempo
- \* Dynamics
- \* Terms and Symbols

### Games on Musicplay Online:

**Melody Composition**Rhythm Composition

Which Rhythm Do you Hear?

**Match the Melody** 

Which Instrument Did you Hear?

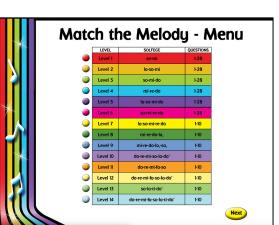
**Note Name Memory** 

**Coconut Chaos** 

**Note Toss Games** 

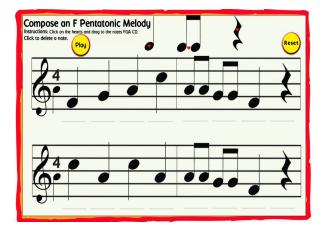
**Space Music Adventure** 

**Instrument Bingo (in partners)** 



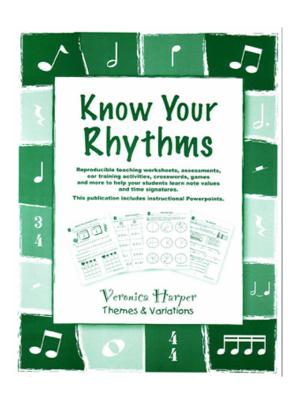


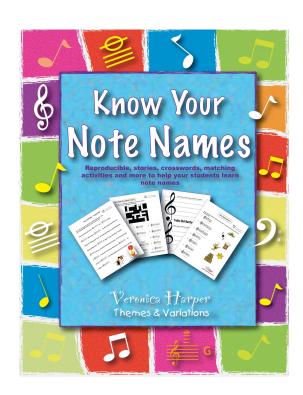


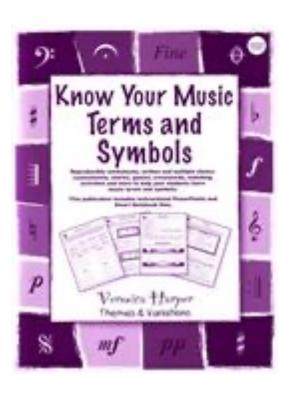




## **Theory Worksheet Stations**



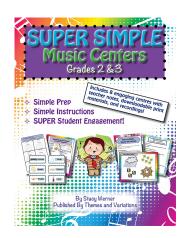


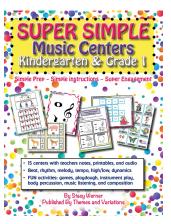


Make booklets of reproducible theory pages that work on concepts in your curriculum.

Have a tub for each class to put their booklets when center time is done.

### **Resources Used:**



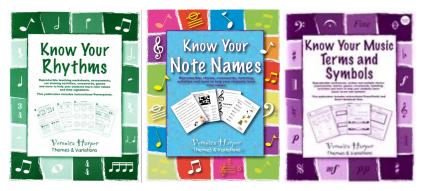


Super Simple Centers K-1 and Gr. 2-3





Music Centers Kits 1-2 Gr. 3-5



**Know Your Rhythms, Note Names, Terms and Symbols** 



**Rhythm Dice Games**