

Roland Classroom Activity: RMP 5 Rhythm Coach

Lesson: Listen!

Concepts: Identify primary rhythm patterns, write patterns, using learned note values.

Grades: 5-8, 20 minutes, individual lesson or group class

Preparation & Materials:

Five samples of music on MIDI, CD or MP3 file. All genres.

One drum stick per student; two students per RMP5.

National Standards Met:

Standard 2: Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

Students drum the pulse in a variety of music styles.

Standard 6: Listening to, analyzing, and describing music

Students listen to audio files, find the pulse, then play.

Detailed Lesson Plan:

Note: This lesson can be easily modified for age and level by using ONLY the note values that students have learned.

1. Review learned note values.
2. Tell students they will be listening to samples of music and writing a ONE to TWO measure rhythm pattern that would sound good or support the music they are hearing.
3. Play selected music sample.
4. While the music is playing, students work in pairs to write a rhythm pattern.
5. Play the music again, directing student pairs to drum their written pattern.
6. Discuss: Why did you choose that pattern? Why do you think it sounds good or supports the music?
7. Repeat listening, writing, and sharing activity with a variety of styles of music. Be sure to discuss student choices.
8. Optional extension: create loops or chains using student patterns. Create a pattern out of student work and play together.