
Play & Sing

Drum Table Activity Series

Students with Developmental
Disabilities & Autism

Lesson 5



Topic

Communication, Academic, Cognitive, Sensory Motor, Social

Skill Areas

Receptive Language, Math, Sequencing, Attention Span, Gross Motor, Turn-taking/Impulse Control, Teamwork, Verbal Communication, Academic, Musical Performance

Goals

1. Students will begin identify familiar patterns of rhythm and melody
2. Students will listen and try to visualize and recall familiar songs.
3. Students will begin to select and play rhythms of familiar songs they know.

Objectives

As a result of this lesson participants will be able to:

4. Students will begin to understand rhythm and melody and how to hear and identify songs being played on a drum.
5. Students will begin using their voice to accompany rhythm while playing the drum

Materials

40" Remo Drum Table with Comfort Sound Technology and two (2) mallets for each participant.

3" and 22" Drum Tables can be used with smaller groups or incorporating taking turns.

Drum Table Activity Series

Lesson 5 Video at:

comfortsoundtechnology.com/lessons

Music Therapy

The clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship by a credentialed professional who has completed an approved music therapy program.

If you are working with or are a board-certified music therapist, download the Music Therapy Guideline that accompanies this lesson to explore deeper opportunities for your participant.

Introduction

Have participants seated or standing in a circle around the drum with room to stand and move around. Have all materials ready. Activity can be done for 15 minutes or longer if needed.

Instructions:

Introduce activity. Provide simple clear instructions slowly. Model each activity and ask conformational listening questions.

1. Begin by facilitating a discussion about the importance listening, turn-taking, and playing together. Begin speaking with students about rhythm and speech. Demonstrate how rhythm and speech are so closely related as well as music and language.
2. Next select a very simple and familiar melody to sing and play on the drum. For example, a song like Happy Birthday, Jingle Bells, etc. Begin by having all participants watch as you demonstrate the song and rhythm very slowly on the drum. After a completion encourage members of group to play and sing along. Make sure to have participants sing out loud and together. If any participant has limited verbal abilities encourage them to hum or use protolanguage or noises to follow along. Next select another familiar song and repeat.
3. After successful completion allow students turns to sing and perform their favorite song or make one up. Then again join in as a group.

Development:

1. Incorporate music on CD to play and sing to.
2. Play "Guess the Song" by playing rhythms without singing for students to guess
3. Allow students to play out rhythms for the group and guess the song.
4. Make up a group song or modify the lyrics to a familiar song to fit the group.

Helpful Resources

American Music Therapy Assn
(musictherapy.org)

The Comfort Sound
(comfortsoundtechnology.com)

Remo, Inc. (remo.com)

Credits

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