

Royal College of Music Museum

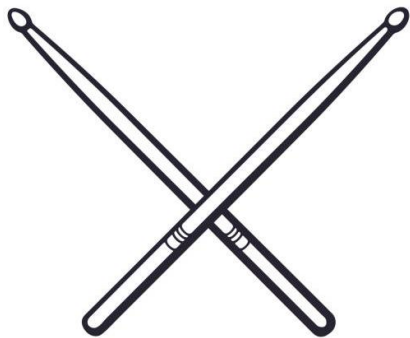
Time Keepers - Group 3 Activity Pack

- Discover a musical Time Keeper
- Learn about an object from the Royal College of Music Museum
- Complete a Time Keeper challenge

MISSION 1: Discover

Who am I?

We are Time Keepers.



We use our hands or sticks and beaters to make music.

Sticks are often used for drums, **beaters** for triangles and gongs, and **mallets** for chimes.



We play lots of different instruments like these. Bells and drums, shakers and tambourines.

All of these instruments belong to a family. A violin is part of the string family.

1. Which family do these instruments belong to?



2. We play **percussion** instruments. What are we called?

Percussionists, particularly drummers, read music that looks like this.

DRUM KEY	
HI-HAT	X
SNARE	●
BASS	○
HH FOOT	X
	☼
	CRASH

STAYIN' ALIVE

BEE GEES
Saturday Night Fever (1977)
Programmed drum track
Transcribed by Nate Brown

*Some auxiliary percussion not transcribed
Performance note: Lightly accent the &s on the hi-hat.*

Funk ♩ = 104 (lightly swing 16s)

Intro

Verse

Each of the symbols on the music means the percussionist has to play a different part of the drumkit.

This music is made up of **rhythms**.

Rhythms are patterns of sounds and silences, long and short notes. They often fit with a **pulse** (a steady beat, with a sound on every beat).



3. Our heartbeat makes a rhythm. Can you tap the rhythm it makes?

MISSION 2: Learn

Percussionists play instruments that come from all over the world. Here are some weird and wonderful percussion instruments from the Royal College of Music Museum.



Tambourine

This tambourine comes from China and has 8 sides!

Can you tell what the head of this tambourine is made of? Clue: it slithers...



Mbira

This instrument is called a mbira. It comes from Zimbabwe.

It's made from metal 'tongues' which sit on top of a hollowed-out gourd (a large fruit with a hard skin). Gourds are used all over the world to make musical instruments!



Angklung

This Malaysian instrument is called an angklung.

It might be a tasty snack for the Giant Pandas at Kuala Lumpur Zoo, because it's made from bamboo! It's played by shaking the bamboo tubes back and forth in the frame.



Quick quiz

(Find the answers at the end of the activity pack)

1. What is a pulse?

2. As well as their hands, what other tools do percussionists use?

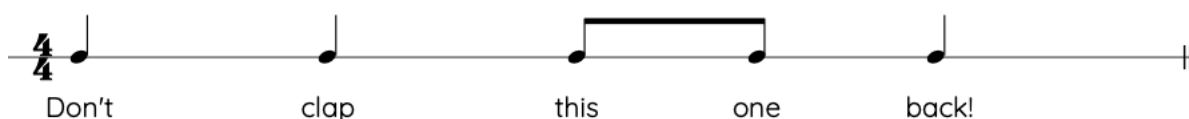
3. Which fruit is the bottom of the mbira made from?

MISSION 3: Challenge

'Don't clap this one back'

This is a musical version of the game 'Simon Says' but with rhythms! By completing this challenge, you'll learn to copy rhythms (and spot the danger rhythm)!

1. Pick a leader or ask your teacher to be the leader.
2. The leader claps a rhythm (make sure it's only 4 beats long), and you clap it back.
3. However, if you hear this rhythm – don't clap it back!



You can try this as a group with a leader, ask your teacher or watch this video below.



Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E36nNEO5Hug>

Discover answers

1. The **percussion** family.
2. People who play drums, shakes and bells are called **percussionists**.
3. The rhythm of our heartbeat goes "quick, quick, silence, quick, quick, silence".

Quick quiz answers

1. A **pulse** is a steady beat, with a sound on every beat.
2. Percussionists use **sticks**, **beaters** and **mallets**.
3. A **gourd**.