

Add a melody

We suggest that you sing the song and explore the rhythms before moving onto this section
*All activities should take place **as the backing track plays.***

There are two backing tracks to choose from. One is slower so start with this one. Move to the normal speed as the children get better at keeping in time to the beat. Encourage them to count the groups of four as they play.

Activity 1: Revise the beats and rhythms activity from the ‘exploring the rhythms’ section. Here is a reminder. Perform this with the backing track.

Group 3: Gaveenas (wood blocks/ claves)		Gaveena (Clap)		Gaveena (Clap)		Gaveena (Clap)		Gaveena
Group 2: Off Beat (shakers/ tambourine/bells)		X (Click)		X (Click)		X (Click)		X (Click)
Group 1: Beat (Drum)	1 (Stamp)	and	2 (Stamp)	and	3 (Stamp)	and	4 (Stamp)	and

Activity 2: Add notes to the rhythms. Just play the notes on the beat. Don’t worry about the Gaveena rhythms until they can play this part in time with the backing track and with each other. Even then, getting those rhythms in time is pretty difficult, don’t worry if they don’t get that far, it will still sound good. You might find you need to turn the backing track off for a bit to get it in time.

BEAT	1	and	2	and	3	and	4	and
Tune 1	E		F		E		D	
Tune 2	A		A		G		G	
Tune 3	C		C		C		B	
Bass Line	A	A	F	F	C	C	B	B

Notes about clarinets, trumpets and saxophones

Activity 3: Once everyone has a part to play and it is in time to the beat, it's time to get creative. You can try the following:

- Bring in each group of instruments at a time until everyone is playing together
- Identify individuals or small groups to play a solo (on their own). Point to them, count down 4-3-2-1 then everyone but them stops playing for a bit. Once they have played enough count up 1-2-3-4 and bring in the rest of the class
- Put the backing track back on. Get them to find the beat then join in. Try turning the backing track off, can they stay in time?
- Give them all the chance to change the rhythms they are playing. They can try the 'Gaveena' rhythm or make up their own. If you hear one you like, get everyone to join in. Just keep the percussion players and bass line going though. This will hold the piece together.
- Get them to compose a way to start and finish the piece
- Put the instruments down and see if they can sing their parts instead. This could form a whole new section in the piece
- Add in the vocals. It's best to start with the chorus, then the Gaveenas, then the verses. Get the lyrics from the website and make sure that any singers have the chance to listen to the song and follow the lyrics before attempting to put it together.

These instruments play in a different key to most classroom instruments so clarinet, trumpet and sax players will have to work their notes out by ear. Send them off with a copy of the grid above and some tuned percussion or a recorder. They should play the written notes and then match these to notes on their own instruments. They will soon work it out.

Click [HERE](#) for ideas for warm ups you can use to start the session.