

Drumming Medley by Carole (Peterson) Stephens ©2004

You can use any kind of drum for this activity – I start with a mini-timpani or tomtom for the first section.

Walk walk walk when the drum says walk
When the drum says stop, you stop!
Jump jump jump when the drum says jump
When the drum says stop, you stop!
Tiptoe, tiptoe tiptoe when the drum says tiptoe
When the drum says stop, you stop!
Run run run when the drum says run
When the drum says stop, you stop!

Once the children are good at matching what they do with the different tempos while you call out the beats, repeat sequence with no words – just beats!

For the next section the children should have something they can drum on – I use plastic babywipes containers. Oatmeal containers work well, too. Be sure to seal the container securely, or the activity becomes about seeing what's inside instead of Steady Beat work!

This is the way we play our drums
Play our drums, play our drums
This is the way we play our drums
So early in the morning!
I can play my drum very softly!
I can play my drum very loudly!
I can play my drum very slowly!
I can play my drum very fast!

Tap with pointer fingers only:

Tap a drum, tap a drum, tap tap tap
Tap a drum, tap a drum, tap tap tap
Tap a drum, tap a drum, tap tap tap
Tap a drum, tap a drum – SHHHH!

Repeat with open hands – Bang a drum!