

# Unit 4: Rhythm

Content Area: **Music**  
Course(s): **Sample Course**  
Time Period: **FebMar**  
Length: **8-10 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## **Title Section**

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## **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**



**Belleville Public Schools**

Curriculum Guide

# Rhythm

## 6th-8th Grade Chorus

**Belleville Board of Education**

**102 Passaic Avenue**

**Belleville, NJ 07109**

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## Unit Overview

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- Rhythm allows musicians to perform together at the same time. Keeping a steady beat to simple and complex meters is the core to keeping any performing group together. Students will complete counting activities, allowing for the understanding of different methods to counting rhythms. Reading and writing rhythms will be explored in this unit. Students will understand basic rhythms, building up to complex rhythms that they will create and perform individually and in groups. Rhythmic patterns will be learned and recognized, making sight reading, and reading concert music easier over time. Students will critically listen to identify rhythmic patterns from a professional performance

## NJSLS

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VPA.1.1.8.B.1	Analyze the application of the elements of music in diverse Western and non-Western musical works from different historical eras using active listening and by reading and interpreting written scores.
VPA.1.1.8.B.2	Compare and contrast the use of structural forms and the manipulation of the elements of music in diverse styles and genres of musical compositions.
VPA.1.1.8.B.CS1	Common, recognizable musical forms often have characteristics related to specific cultural traditions.
VPA.1.1.8.B.CS2	Compositional techniques used in different styles and genres of music vary according to prescribed sets of rules.
VPA.1.2.8.A.CS1	Technological changes have and will continue to substantially influence the development and nature of the arts.

VPA.1.3.8.B.1	Perform instrumental or vocal compositions using complex standard and non-standard Western, non-Western, and avant-garde notation.
VPA.1.3.8.B.2	Perform independently and in groups with expressive qualities appropriately aligned with the stylistic characteristics of the genre.
VPA.1.3.8.B.3	Apply theoretical understanding of expressive and dynamic music terminology to the performance of written scores in the grand staff.
VPA.1.3.8.B.4	Improvise music in a selected genre or style, using the elements of music that are consistent with basic playing and/or singing techniques in that genre or style.
VPA.1.3.8.B.CS1	Western, non-Western, and avant-garde notation systems have distinctly different characteristics.
VPA.1.3.8.B.CS2	Stylistic considerations vary across genres, cultures, and historical eras.
VPA.1.3.8.B.CS3	Understanding of discipline-specific arts terminology (e.g., crescendo, diminuendo, pianissimo, forte, etc.) is a component of music literacy.
VPA.1.3.8.B.CS4	Improvisation is a compositional skill that is dependent on understanding the elements of music as well as stylistic nuances of historical eras and genres of music.
VPA.1.4.8.A.3	Distinguish among artistic styles, trends, and movements in dance, music, theatre, and visual art within diverse cultures and historical eras.
VPA.1.4.8.A.4	Compare and contrast changes in the accepted meanings of known artworks over time, given shifts in societal norms, beliefs, or values.

## Exit Skills

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By the end of unit 4, students will be able to:

- Read and write basic rhythms in simple and compound meter
- Perform basic rhythms in simple and compound meter
- Create rhythms in simple and compound meter
- Identify and perform rhythmic patterns in concert music
- Create groups of rhythmic patterns
- Analyze professional recordings for basic rhythmic patterns
- Count rhythm patterns in simple and complex meter

## Enduring Understanding

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**Definition:** *Enduring Understandings*

Enduring understandings are statements summarizing important ideas and core processes that are central to a discipline and have lasting value beyond the classroom. They synthesize what students should understand—not just know or do—as a result of studying a particular content area. Moreover, they articulate what students should “revisit” over the course of their lifetimes in relationship to the content area.

- Rhythm is the heartbeat of music
- Rhythm can be simple or complex
- Starting with a heartbeat, rhythm exists all around the universe
- Rhythms are prevalent in all areas of music, and some areas of music are solely rhythmic

## **Essential Questions**

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**Essential Question:** A question that lies at the heart of a subject or a curriculum and one that promotes inquiry and the discovery of a subject.

- They can help students discover patterns in knowledge and solve problems.
- They support inductive teaching—guiding students to discover meaning, which increases motivation to learn.
- They are one of the most powerful tools for helping students think at more complex levels.
- They engage the personal intellect—something that traditional objectives usually fail to do.
- Have no obvious “right” answer
- Raise other important questions, often across subject-area boundaries
- Address a concept
- Raise other important questions
- Naturally and appropriately recur
- Stimulate critical, ongoing rethinking
- Are framed to provoke and sustain student interest

### **What makes a Questions "Essential?"**

- Continues throughout all our lives
- Refers to core ideas and inquiries within a discipline
- Helps students effectively ask questions and make sense of important and complex ideas, knowledge, and know-how
- Engages a specific and diverse set of learners

### **Two Types of Essential Questions:**

- **Overarching:** The overall “Big Idea”
  - More general, broader
  - Point beyond specific topics or skills
  - Promote the transfer of understanding
- **Topical:** Unit or lesson specific but still promotes inquiry
  - Unit or lesson specific - used to guide individual units or lessons

- Promote inquiry
- Resist obvious answers
- Require explanation and justification

- Rhythm is the heartbeat of music
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## Learning Objectives

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### Tips on Writing Good Learning Objectives

#### Bloom's Taxonomy

#### Applying Bloom's Taxonomy to Learning Objectives

Effective learning objectives need to be observable and/or measureable, and using action verbs is a way to achieve this. Verbs such as “identify”, “argue,” or “construct” are more measureable than vague or passive verbs such as “understand” or “be aware of”. As you develop your syllabus focus on articulating clear learning objectives and then use these objectives to guide class assignments, exams and overall course assessment questions.

#### Sample Learning Objectives for a Lower Division Course

After completing *Nutrition 101 Humans and Food*, students will be able to:

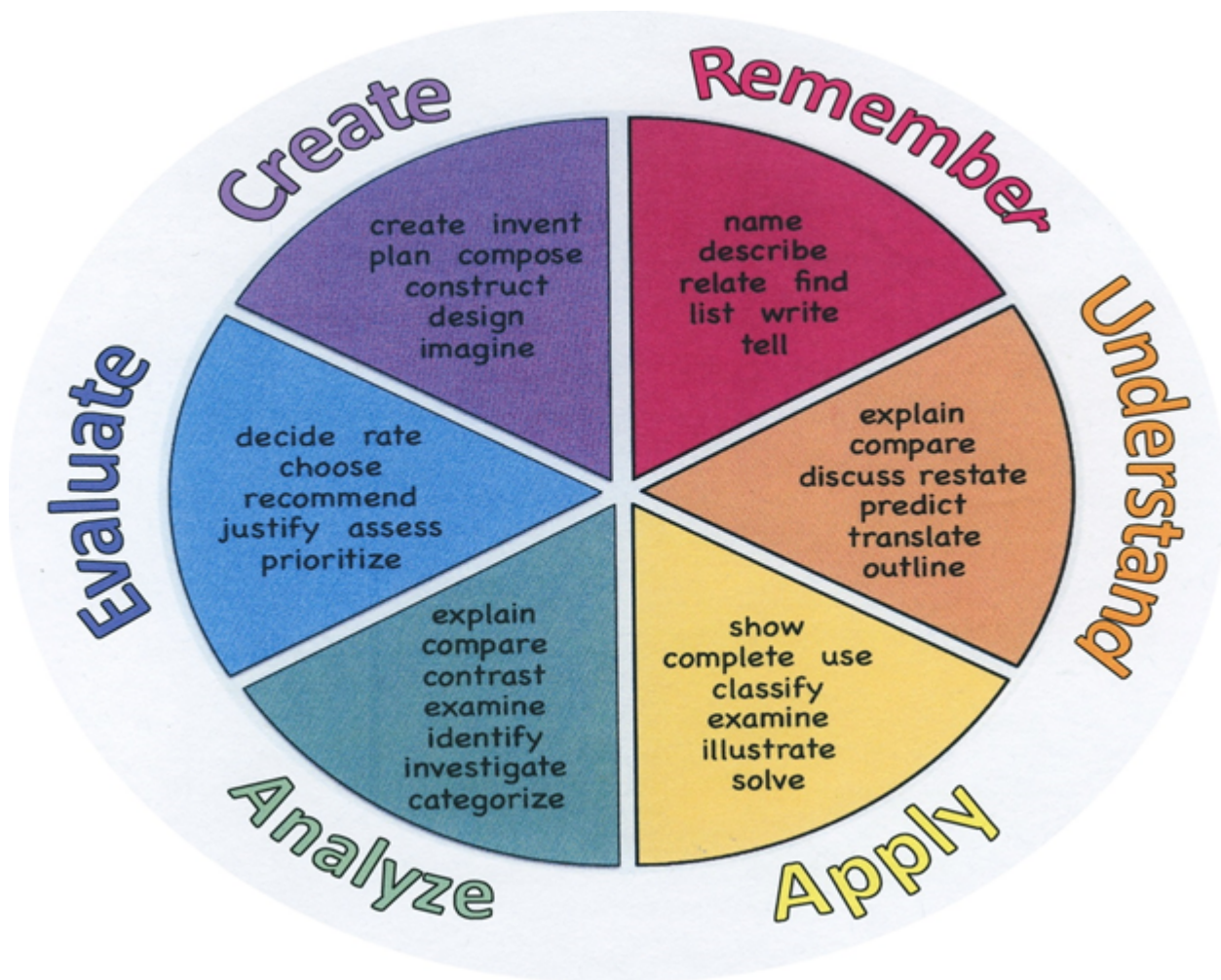
- **Identify** nutrients found in common food sources via the product's nutrition label
- Use computer dietary analysis to assess a 2-day dietary intake and **summarize** results
- **Locate** nutrition-related information on the Internet and use **evaluative** criteria to **identify** reliability of the information

#### Action Verbs

Below are examples of action verbs associated with each level of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy. These are useful in writing learning objectives, assignment objectives and exam questions.

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent

Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				



- Identify, read, write and perform basic rhythmic patterns in simple meter
- Identify, read, write and perform basic rhythmic patterns in complex meter
- Perform rhythmic patterns in concert music
- Analyze rhythm patterns in written music
- Analyze professional recordings of rhythmic music for rhythmic patterns
- Discuss rhythm in nature
- Create rhythm ensembles in small groups

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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Please list all and any cross-curricular content standards that link to this Unit.

LA.WHST.6-8.5	With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
LA.WHST.6-8.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
MA.6.SP.B.5b	Describing the nature of the attribute under investigation, including how it was measured and its units of measurement.

## **Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology**

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### **Key SUBJECTS AND 21st CENTURY THEMES**

Mastery of key subjects and 21st century themes is essential for all students in the 21st century.

Key subjects include:

- English, reading or language arts
- World languages
- Arts
- Mathematics
- Economics
- Science
- Geography
- History
- Government and Civics

## **21st Century/Interdisciplinary Themes**

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- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

## **21st Century Skills**

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- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

## **Technology Infusion**

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What technology can be used in this unit to enhance learning?



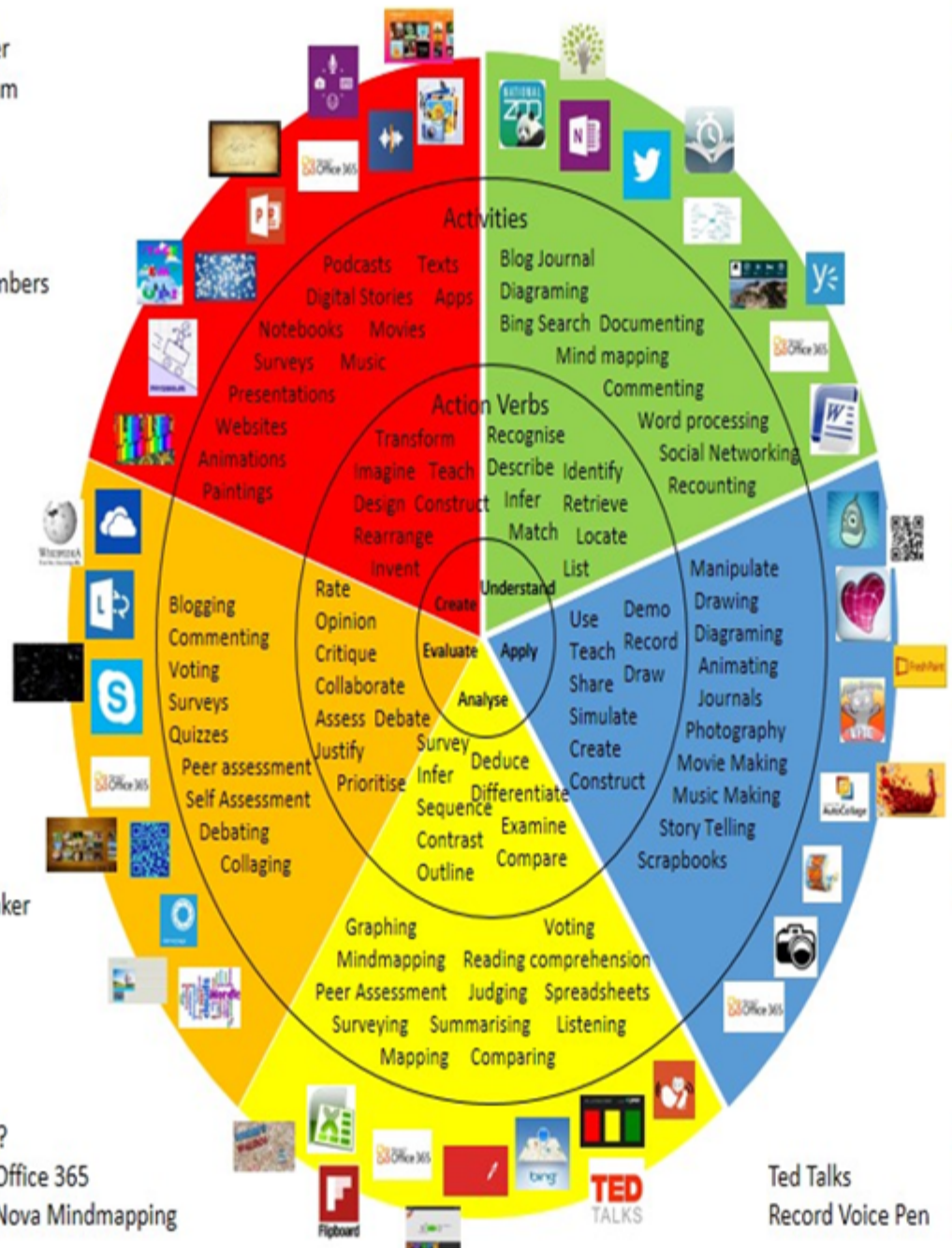
## Win 8.1 Apps/Tools Pedagogy Wheel

Podcasts  
Photostory 3  
Kid Story Builder  
Music Maker Jam  
Paint A Story  
Office 365  
MS PowerPoint  
Stack 'Em Up  
NqSquared Numbers  
Physamajig  
Xylophone 8

Wikipedia  
Skydrive  
Lync  
SkyMap  
Skype  
Office 365  
Puzzle Touch  
Easy QR  
Memorylage  
Life Moments  
Word Cloud Maker

Where's Waldo?  
MS Excel  
Flipboard  
Office 365  
Nova Mindmapping

Ted Talks  
Record Voice Pen



## Differentiation

As a Reminder:

The basis of good differentiation in a lesson lies in differentiating by content, process, and/or product.

Resources:

- NJDOE: Instructional Supports and Scaffolds for Success in Implementing the Common Core State Standards <http://www.state.nj.us/education/modelcurriculum/success/math/k2/>

## **Special Education**

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- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multiple test sessions
- multi-sensory presentation
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## **ELL**

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- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information

- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## **Intervention Strategies**

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- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## **Evidence of Student Learning-CFU's**

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Please list ways educators may effectively check for understanding in this section.

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit tests

## **Primary Resources**

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Please list all resources available to you that are located either within the district or that can be obtained by district resources.

-Concert Music

- Reading and Writing Music

## Ancillary Resources

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Please list ALL other resources available to strengthen your lesson.

-Professional recordings via cd or other media

- youtube.com

-musictheory.net

## Sample Lesson

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Unit Name:

Rhythm Review

NJSLS:

See Link

Interdisciplinary Connection:

Music and World Culture

Statement of Objective:

SWDAT compose and improvise basic rhythmic structure based on rhythmic dictation

Anticipatory Set/Do Now:

Identify the following rhythmic values on the board, and write the amount of beats each note gets.

Learning Activity:

1. Complete and review Do Now (quarter, half, whole and 8th note).
2. Complete a simple demonstration of improvisation, either with instruments, clapping, or singing, based on the class and maturity level.
3. Assess students as they perform, do they understand the rhythmic concepts? (following the call and response method of Will Schmidt's world drumming curriculum)
4. Apply the counting and rhythmic methods into concert literature (African Bell carol, Cantate Canon, or method book).
5. Analyze proper counting.
6. Final run through
7. Return materials.

Student Assessment/CFU's:

Analysis during improvisation- do they keep a steady beat? Do they complete the improv during the assigned time (4 beats).

Materials:

Music, instruments, board

21st Century Themes and Skills:  
See Link

Differentiation:

Advanced students will lead the improvisation, demonstrating more difficult rhythmic patterns

Integration of Technology: Websites, professional recordings