



Rhythm in a Round

Resources

Adult, 2 or more children, tambour/untuned percussion instrument (optional)

Learning opportunities

- Development of listening and attention skills
- Waiting and turn taking
- Development of auditory memory
- Knowledge and understanding of rhythm

Activity ideas

- Sit in a circle so that everyone can clearly see each other. Adult to clap a simple rhythm, child next to the adult on their left copies the rhythm, the next child copies the rhythm until the rhythm has gone full circle. The adult can introduce the word 'rhythm' before they pass it around. Clap the rhythm and say, 'This is my rhythm, can you pass it round?' Explain that when sounds are put together make a rhythm.
- Use different rhythms for the children to clap and pass around. The game can be made more challenging when there are more children sat in the circle and/or by the difficulty of the rhythm chosen.
- Once the children are familiar and competent with clapping try standing up and passing a rhythm by slapping the thigh, stamping the foot, or tapping two fingers on the palm of the hand.
- Simple instruments can be introduced once the children are familiar with clapping hands etc. Try a tambour for the children to tap the rhythm on. If you don't have one available, a clean take-away tub or margarine tub with its lid on will do just as well. Each child can have their own instrument or pass around the adult's.

