

INTERESTING SOUND RONDO

1. After warm-up exercise or song, give out claves (rhythm sticks) and divide children into 4 groups (as they are sitting).
2. Practice different echo rhythms, catching them out on “Martian Mode” (hold rhythm sticks in hands and on head above forehead like antennae).
3. Ask the children to go around the room and find an interesting object (or sound) to play with their claves. Once they have found their “sound”, they stand next to it and wait for everyone to be ready. The teacher chooses a “sound” to begin and each child plays, one after the other, around the room. Rules are that no-one is allowed to talk and the “sounds” must follow each other so that a continuous string of sound is made.
4. Sit down again. Give them rhythm of “One, two, cha – cha – cha” to echo.
5. This becomes the **A section** of the “Interesting Sound Rondo”.
6. Ask 1 group to play on something made of wood (use a wooden object like a table or chair)
7. Ask 1 group to play on cardboard (a large cardboard box works well)
8. Ask 1 group to play on plastic (a plastic chair)
9. Ask 1 group to play on metal (whatever you can find made of metal in the classroom.)

NOTE: Please use objects made from different things if the above are difficult to find – I have used glass (windows), bricks (walls) etc. Each group of children stands around their object and plays on it with their sticks. You can give them a rhythm or allow them to just tap until you signal a stop.

10. The groups all stand next to their special objects and play the A section together twice on the rhythm sticks. Then one group plays their “Music” and all play the A section again. This proceeds until all the groups have played, finishing on the A section and Martian Mode. **The teacher is the conductor and the children must watch her to know when to start and stop their special music.**
11. Now teach a cha-cha dance step to dance in time to the A section. Use recorded music (cha-cha) and teach the children to dance the steps and play the rondo for whole song. I have found that “Sway” by the Pussycat Dolls works very well, but any cha-cha will do!