

Monk and Novice Rhythm cards

Instructions

These cards will help pupils to develop the skills they need to read musical notation and to perform rhythms with a good sense of beat or pulse. The figures are a very basic way of notating crotchets (one beat notes) and quavers (half beat notes) The cards use two figures. A large Monk for which we will say the word 'Big' and two smaller characters - novices for whom we shall say the word Li-tle. The other cards use the same idea but with a basic musical stick notation replacing the Monks and Novices.



The large monk (Big)



And two small Novices. For whom we use the word lit-tle.

So the following pattern would be said as



big lit tle lit tle big.

Cut up the cards in the pack and use them as flashcards for your pupils. I always say ready steady off you go to help them start together. Once the pupils have got the hang of this then they can 'blow the words into their hands' and clap the rhythms. Card may also be used to help pupils who are stuck for ideas in composing tasks.