

Beat vs Rhythm

Beat: The basic unit of time, the pulse of the song. It is regularly repeating and always the same.

Rhythm: The arrangements of sounds as they move through time. In a song the rhythm follows the lyrics and the notes. Rhythm in the song will vary and change each measure.

What do Beat & Rhythm Sound Like?



Let's start with **BEAT!** Clap along following the Stars on the chart for "When I Am Baptized"



Next, we will follow a pattern clapping to the **RHYTHM!** Clap each time you see a new color!

We conduct to the beat!

Songs have different beats, or that steady pulse behind the song. There are four common beat patterns:

3/4 - 3 beats to each measure

4/4 - 4 beats to each measure

2/4 - 2 beats to each measure

6/8 - 6 beats to each measure

Finding "Time Signature"

The time signature of a song tells us what the beat will be for each song. Let's look at some examples!

CONDUCTING PATTERNS

Time signature	Number of beats per measure	Beat pattern
$\frac{3}{4}$	3	
$\frac{4}{4}$	4	
$\frac{2}{4}$	2	
$\frac{6}{8}$	6	

Adding Emphasis

- LOUD - Large beat pattern - arms farther away from body
- SOFT - Small beat pattern, arms close to body
- FAST - Quick beat pattern, sharp motions
- SLOW - Slow beat pattern, graceful motions

Conducting Patterns

3/4 time signature = 3 beats per measure - A "Triangle"

- Pretending like you are drawing a triangle in the area, one side on each beat. The first note after the bar is the down beat and should be your straight down movement. Then to the side, then back up to the starting point.

4/4 time signature = 4 beats per measure - A "Plus Sign"

- Picture a plus sign in your mind. Your first beat will go straight down. Then go to the left, then to the right, and back up to the top.

2/4 time signature = 2 beats per measure - An "Ocean Wave"

- Picture a shell bouncing on an ocean wave. The shell goes out with the wave and then back out to the ocean. Bring your hand down and curve up just a little, then swish like an ocean wave bring the shell back to the ocean.

6/8 time signature = 6 beats per measure - A "Christmas Tree"

- Picture your Christmas tree. Start by drawing the trunk with a strong downward movement. Next bounce twice to the left touching the low hanging ornaments, then twice to the right. Finally trace your hand back up the slanted edge of your Christmas tree back to the top.

Using hands to show meaning:

- Demonstrate Pitch: Use your hand to demonstrate the movement in pitch by holding your hand flat and moving it up or down to emphasize the movement of the notes.
- Holding a note
- Ending the song

- Beat - Practice clapping to beat
 - o Downbeat
- Rhythm – Practice clapping to rhythm

*Key to conducting – knowing the music so you can look at the choir

*Finding Beat in a song game

- Face backward so they can mirror me
- Sing words to make it easier for them to follow along
- Partner Practice
- If you lose your place, steady beat up and down or figure 8 until you catch the downbeat

Conducting Patterns

- 4-count – 4/4 – Plus Sign
- 3-count – ¾ - Triangle
- 2-count 2/2 and 2/4 – Like the ocean
- LOUD – Large beat pattern – arms away from body, or left arm for emphasis
- SOFT – Small beat pattern, arms close to body, left hand palm down
- FAST – Quick beat pattern, sharp motions, bounce off the beat
- SLOW – Slow beat pattern, graceful motions
- Get LOUDER – Increase beat pattern size and left palm facing upward moves upward
- Get SOFTER – Decrease beat pattern size left palm facing down moving downward
- Get FASTER – Increase beat pattern speed, motions more crisp
- Get SLOWER – Make beat patten slower, smoother motions

Using hands to show meaning:

- Holding a note
- Pitch-level
- More emphasis / volume

Have kids “silly conduct”

Homework: Practice! In front of a mirror, for FHE, during activity days, in Primary!

HYMN BOOK:

- 300 – Families Can Be Together Forever (4/4)
- 301 – I Am a Child of God (4/4)
- 302 – I Know My Father Lives (4/4)
- 303 – Keep the Commandments (2/4)
- 304 – Teach Me to Walk in the Light (3/4)
- 308 – Love One Another



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