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Rhythm Fraction Circles

PURPOSE:

This can be a wonderful rhythm activity to introduce the students to note names and values as well as integrate the mathematical concepts of fractions. The rhythmic values incorporated are, in fact, nothing more than fractions or parts of a whole. Whether the instructor chooses to support or disregard the concept of curriculum integration is a personal choice. If integration is supported, it is important to remember that, although the students may be focusing on mathematical (or other) concepts, this is a music lesson and that the students should leave the lesson with a deeper musical knowledge and awareness. This is (can be) an extensive lesson on which any number of other lessons can be built. Be creative.

SUGGESTED AGE:

2nd – 6th Grade

MATERIALS:

- Four paper plates for each student
- Scissors
- Crayons or markers

SETUP:

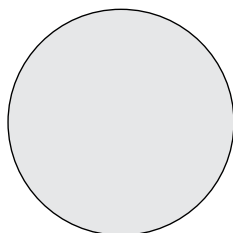
Instruct students to go slowly, one step at a time, and do not get ahead of the class/teacher.

Demonstrate each step every time you do this lesson exactly as it should be done by the students.

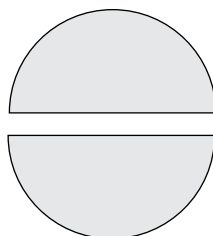
It may seem like a waste of supplies, but the students will more clearly understand the “how to” process of this activity through the demonstration.

Setup 1:

Begin by setting one fraction circle (paper plate) aside.



Fold the next plate in half and unfold to create a line down the middle. Cut the plate in half along the fold. Set the two halves on top of the whole.



Appendix E

