

7

FEEL THE RHYTHM *ta ka ta ki Ta*

0337CH07

Rhythm is very important in music.



Observe the ticking of a clock, water dripping from a tap or the chirping of a bird.

- What else makes a steady beat around you?
- What are the sounds that don't have a steady beat? The leaves rustling on a tree, the whistle of a pressure cooker, and the honking of cars in traffic are all sounds that don't have a steady beat.

Do you like a steady beat or an irregular beat? What are some other examples of each that you can think of?

ACTIVITY 1 One Two Three Four!

The images of clap, click, stamp and stomp given below are in a pattern. Try them. Create more such four beat rhythms and enjoy.

1.				
2.				
3.				

ACTIVITY 2 Call and Response Mapping



We can make rhythms using our body—

- Clapping
- Snapping
- Stomping
- Making sounds with the mouth

Let's assign numbers to these—

Clap – 1

Snap – 2

Stomp – 3

Making a sound with the mouth – 4

Create your own rhythm patterns using your body!

Now, continue creating such rhythms.

a.	1	2	3	4
b.	2	3	1	4
c.				
d.				
e.				
f.				
g.				
h.				

ACTIVITY 3 Let's Listen and Learn

Let's learn a very popular song sung in many parts of the world.

Hum Honge Kamyab

*Hum Honge Kamyab,
Hum Honge Kamyab,
Hum Honge Kamyab Ek Din.
Ho Ho Mann Mein Hai Vishwas,
Pura Hai Vishwas,
Hum Honge Kamyab Ek Din.*



English

*We shall overcome,
We shall overcome,
We shall overcome some day.
Oh, deep in my heart,
I do believe,
That we shall overcome some day.*

Kannada

*Navu Gedde Geltivi,
Navu Gedde Geltivi,
Navu Gedde Geltivi Ondu Dina.
Oho Manadali Vishwasa,
Purti Vishwasa,
Navu Gedde Geltivi Ondu Dina.*

ACTIVITY 4 Learn the Rhythm with Musical Instruments

Keep the rhythm of a song of your choice.

Can you keep the rhythm with *dandia* sticks, clapper, *manjeera*, *dafli*, *maracas* or a rattle?

You will enjoy playing these musical instruments in a proper rhythm.

Do You Know?

The concept of *taala* finds its earliest mention in the *Samaveda*. The *taala* systems of North and South India were not distinct till the 16th century.

ACTIVITY 5 Learn the Rhythm with your Body

Start counting by clapping or stamping your feet (one at a time). Use different types of claps for keeping the rhythm — claps on your left, on your right, up above or in silence.

For example, 1, 2, 3, clap, 5, 6, 7, clap – 1, 2, 3, clap on the right, 5, 6, 7, clap on the left – 1, 2, 3, clap above your head 5, 6, 7, silence.

So you realise this clapping method helps us in keeping the rhythm. After a 5–10 minute exercise, let us add some *tabla bol* to this.

dha ge na ti (repeat) with claps and counting. Then continue na ka dhi na with claps and counting.

The *taala* with the *bol* 'dha Ge Na ti na ka dhi na' is called *keherva*.

In a similar fashion, *aadi tala* can be taken up which consists of 8 *akshara kaala* (8 beats).

ta ka dhi mi — ta ka jha Nu

This is the *taala* being played with this song.

Let's enjoy — clap, sing, and move.

ACTIVITY 6 Learn the Notes (*Swara*) in Music

Indian classical music, as well as a number of other forms of music around the world, have seven notes.

Sa, Re, Ga, Ma, Pa, Dha, Ni ...

Sing 'Sa' after the above notes but at a higher pitch. These seven notes together are called *saptak*.

Let us sing the seven notes several times, going upwards and then downwards.



Do
You
Know?

The *Natya Shastra* is an ancient text from India written by *Bharata Muni*. It talks about music, dance, and drama. Did you know that in the *Natya Shastra*, each *swara* (musical note) is connected to a different emotion? This means that the music you play or sing can make you feel different things depending on which notes are used!

ACTIVITY 7 Let's Sing: Head Shoulders Knees and Toes

Let's do a fun activity.
As you sing, touch your head, shoulders, knees and toes.
This will help you with your coordination skills and will introduce you to the Punjabi language too!

Do You Know?

Laya refers to rhythm or tempo in music. It is steady, like your heartbeat. But just as your heartbeat becomes faster when you run, and slower when you are asleep, the *laya* can be different for different compositions too.

Lyrics

Sir, Mode, Gode, Paer, Gode, Paer.
Sir, Mode, Gode, Paer, Gode, Paer.
Nale Ankh, Nale Kaan, Nale Muh, Nale Nak.
Sir, Mode, Gode, Paer, Gode, Paer.

Language: Punjabi

English Translation

Heads, shoulders, knees and toes, let's go.
Heads, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.
And eyes and ears and a mouth and a nose.
Heads, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.

Now you know how to sing this song and do this activity in two languages. Can you try it in another language you know? Try to sing the above song in different speeds (faster and slower tempo).



ACTIVITY 8 A Birthday Song

Birthdays are important for everyone. Let us learn this birthday song.

Lyrics

*Janma Dinam Idam Ayi Priya Sakhe
Shantano Tu Te Sarvada Mudam
Prarthayamahe Bhava Shatayushi
Ishvarah Sada Tvam Cha Rakshatu
Punya Karmana Keerthimarjaya
Jeevanam Tava Bhavatu Saarthakam*

Meaning

Dear friend, Happy Birthday! May happiness and many good things come your way. We pray for your good health. May you live long! May God protect you! May you be known for your good deeds. Have a purposeful life!

Composer: Swami Tejomayananda

Language: Sanskrit

Can you sing your favourite song and try to keep the rhythm by clapping?

Teacher's Note

Celebrate a child's birthday in the class with a song, a dance, and making a card for good wishes. This activity will naturally incorporate the arts.



ACTIVITY 9 An Interesting Story

According to the ancient Sanskrit text, *Naradiya Shiksha*, musical notes were created from the cries and sounds of different birds and animals. Let us learn them in this song.

Lyrics

Sa is for peacock so colourful

Ri is for bull that's really strong

Ga is for goat that runs around

Ma is for heron white and tall

Pa is for cuckoo cute and sweet

Dha is for horse that runs so far

Ni is for elephant that's so huge

That will bring us back to **Sa** ...

Sa Ri Ga Ma Pa Dha Ni Sa Pa Sa.

Sa Ni Dha Pa Ma Ga Ri Sa Pa Sa.



ACTIVITY 11 Building Blocks of Music

Notes are the building blocks of music, like we use bricks to build a house. Do you remember the seven notes that we had learnt earlier? Let us **listen** to them and sing them together once more. Now let us learn some more *sargams* or *alankars*. The word *Alankar* also means decoration. So you see that the notes are like ornaments in music.

SS RR GG MM | PP DhDh | NN ŚŚ ||
ŚŚ NN DhDh PP | MM GG | RR SS ||
SRG, RGM, GMP, MPDh, PDhN, DhNŚ
ŚNDh, NDhP, DhPM, PMG, MGR, GRS

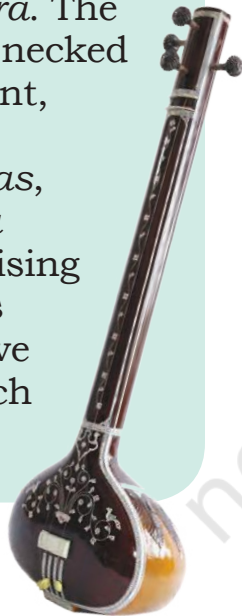
How many lines from these exercises were you able to sing?

If you are unable to sing all the lines, it's okay! Keep practising.

ACTIVITY 12 The Music in Notes (Alankar and Sargam) Sing and Repeat

Do You Know?

We use the word 'pitch' to explain how high or low a note is. To understand how to sing in pitch, we use an instrument known as a *tambura* or *tanpura*. The *tambura* is a long necked stringed instrument, but you also have electronic *tamburas*, and even *tambura* apps! When practising Indian music, it is very helpful to have a *tambura* to match your pitch.



Tanpura

Notes

i) **Sa Ga, Sa Ga,
Sa Ga Ma Ga Re Sa
Re Ga Re Ga,
Re Ga Pa Ma Ga Re
Sa Sa Sa**

Clap and sing.

You may sing with these words:

**Aao, Aao
Khushiyaan Manao
Gao Gao,
Sab Mil ke Gao**

ii) Let us sing another *sargam* or *alankar*

**Sa Sa Sa Re
Re Re Re Ga
Ga Ga Ga Ma
Ma Ma Ma Pa**

Fill in the blanks and sing.

Ni Ni Ni Śa

(There is a dot on top of this 'Śa' which means you have to sing on a high pitch.)

ACTIVITY 13**Learn about *Taala***

So you learnt that *taala* is a pattern of rhythm. We use *taala* to keep the beat in music. Each *taala* has a fixed number of beats that is repeated and is known as a *taala* cycle. You recited *Adi taala* and *keharva*.

Let's revise them.

Now let us recite another *taala* which is of six beats.

dha dhi na/ dha ti na

The name of this *taala* is *dadra*.

ACTIVITY 14

Listen to this Song and Try to Keep *Taala* with it

Shyamale Meenakshi**Lyrics**

Shyamale Meenakshi
Sundareshvara Sakshi
Shankari Guruguha
Samudbhava Shiveva
Paamara Mochani
Pankaja Lochani
Padmaasana Vani Hari
Lakshmi Vinute Shaambhavi
Shyamale Meenakshi

About the Song

This is a song about Goddess Meenakshi. She is the wife of Shiva and mother of Shanmukha.

Composer: Muthuswami Dikshitar

Language: Sanskrit

Ragam: Shankarabharanam

Talam: Adi

Some Musical Terms

In music, we use the following common terms—

Indian Music Term	English Term
<i>Taala</i>	Rythmic cycle
<i>Laya</i>	Tempo
<i>Sam</i>	The first beat of a <i>Taala</i>
<i>Aavartan</i>	One Cycle of a <i>Taala</i>

