

Doug Goodkin: Table Rhythms

A little lesson using four of seven "Table Rhythms" that I learned from a 12-year old in Canada some 15 years ago. The next video transfers the rhythms to "kitchen instruments." After watching the videos, the students are invited to create their own orchestra to play the rhythms. They can also experiment with different tempos or forms or improvise from the given rhythms. They then video their re-composition and send it back to us.

[Table Rhythms.MOV](#)

Here is the kitchen instrument video. Both videos were made by myself, daughters Kerala and Talia and granddaughter Zadie.

[Table Rhythms Kitchen.MOV](#)

TABLE RHYTHMS

AS TAUGHT BY DOUG GOODKIN CAMP GAME

SNAP CLAP LEFT HAND RIGHT HAND

3

5

7

ELBOW

GRAB ELBOW

CROSS HANDS

HIT TOP OF RIGHT HAND WITH LEFT

HIT TOP OF LEFT HAND WITH RIGHT

ARMS CROSSED

HITTING BACKS OF HANDS

ARMS CROSSED

HITTING BACKS OF HANDS

THIS CAMP GAME, TAUGHT TO ME BY 14 YEAR OLD MICAH IOFFE IN TORONTO, HAS MANY EXCITING POSSIBILITIES IN THE ORFF CLASSROOM. THE GAME IS PLAYED SEATED AROUND A TABLE. ALL LEFT AND RIGHT HAND RHYTHMS PLAYED HITTING THE TABLE SURFACE. SOME VARIATIONS:

- PLAY IN A CIRCLE ON NEIGHBOUR'S BACK
- VOCALISE ALL TABLE SOUNDS
- DIVIDE GROUP IN HALF ONE GROUP PLAY THE ODD MEASURES AND THE OTHER THE EVEN
- DIVIDE GROUP IN 7 PARTS EACH GROUP PLAYS ONE PATTERN IN THE ORDER GIVEN
- AS ABOVE, ADDING PATTERNS UNTIL ALL ARE PLAYED SIMULTANEOUSLY
- AS ABOVE, PLAYED ON XYLOPHONES WITH C AND G, ONLY TABLE RHYTHMS ARE PLAYED ON XYLOS
- ORCHESTRATE FOR SMALL PERCUSSION