

## *Aural and rhythm skills development game*

# Rhythm Development Game - Poison Rhythm

This is a listening and echo clapping game, where students have to listen and echo rhythms that the teacher claps, except if the teacher claps the “poison rhythm.”

Everyone has seen teachers clap a rhythm to get a group of children’s attention - so it really isn’t difficult to clap a random pattern and have a group of children echo clap a rhythm in response.

We have many different versions of these exercises throughout the Fun Music Company curriculum program of various levels. You can use whatever rhythms you feel comfortable with, depending on your experience with teaching music.

The poison rhythm is this one:



Begin by randomly clapping rhythms like the examples below, and then randomly play the poison rhythm ... and if they copy it ... they’re out! They will also be out if they don’t play one that wasn’t the poison rhythm.

Children will get very good at this quite quickly, so you may wish to make it harder by varying the dynamics (volume) and the tempo (speed) to make it more difficult to spot the poison rhythm.

Example rhythms to clap:

