

Three word week

Ask students to sum up their week by only using three words. Often this can help indicate anything that might effect the lesson as well as serve for a good creative starting point for other activities. This is also a great way to build rapport and get to know your students better.

Creativity: Phonics Clapping Game?

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This is a good way to incorporate a lesson topic into a warm up and also expand into something more creative. Try clapping the rhythm of a piece that the group are working on. You can then expand this by focusing on certain bars and giving the group the chance to take solos creating drum fills. This can be done over shorter one or two beat gaps working up to a whole bar.

Ways to expand:

-Body percussion, use other parts of the body inc. patting chest, stamping feet, vocal sounds.

-Letting the participants take charge by conducting or coming up with their own rhythms can be a good way of giving responsibility and empowering the group.

-Generate participant led ideas such as using the three word week or use other stimulus with something silly such as what they have had for breakfast etc.

Technical

Practice pads can be a great way to include all small group participants. Over a click or backing track suggested by the student it can be good to have a tailor made set of rudiments which the students can warm up with. i.e. single paradiddle, double paradiddle, triple paradiddle, 5/7/9 stroke roll, flams etc

It can be useful to add a rudiment every week or month and spend time focusing on that particular rudiment to create an individual warm up practice routine that can be replicated at home even if the student doesn't have a drum kit.