


Woodwind Red Award Worksheet

Objective: Make up my own rhythms and play them

A rhythm is a pattern of long and short notes. There are two ways to start to make up and play your own rhythms. Here's the first way:

1. Think of a phrase to do with your life. It could be about family, pets, hobbies, sport etc.
Write it here:
2. Then try to say that in a four beat rhythm counting 1, 2, 3, 4 before you start; practise that.
Example: I like playing in a band / I have two tabby cats
3. Try clapping as you speak the words in rhythm, then try clapping without speaking, just thinking the words.
4. Finally see if you can play that rhythm on your instrument, just using one note; practise that.
5. Now you've got the hang of it, try making up phrases to do with what you had for breakfast or lunch, animals that you like, or your favourite book.
6. If you are in contact with a friend learning an instrument, you could try playing your rhythms to each other over the phone.
7. Play your rhythms to an adult in your house and tick off on your Red Award card. Congratulations, you can now make up and play your own rhythms!

Here's the second way:

1. Think about what we've learned so far about note lengths. Write down what we call these symbols and how many beats using walk, running, stride and sh!

2. See if you can think of a pattern of note lengths to fit into four beats. Try saying the words out loud, counting 1, 2, 3, 4 before you start.
Write it here:
3. Then try clapping the rhythm while saying the words, and then try just clapping.
4. Finally, see if you can play that rhythm on your instrument, just using one note; practise that.
5. Now you've got the hang of it, try making up some new rhythms.
6. If you are in contact with a friend learning an instrument, you could try playing your rhythms to each other over the phone.
7. Play your rhythms to an adult in your house and tick off on your Red Award card. Congratulations, you can now make up and play your own rhythms!