

Improvisation – creating your own music

RED AWARD

(AIM: 'Think of an interesting rhythm and choose a string to play it on')

1. Start by clapping or tapping these simple rhythms (tip- look at the words underneath to help you!)

4 time: Count 1 2 3 4
4

1 2 3 4
FROG FROG FROG FROG

Quarter notes or Crotchets

4 time: Count 1 2 3 4
4

1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and
Mon-key Mon-key Mon-key Mon-key

Eighth notes or quavers

Now pluck on the A string –

Or A A A A
AA AA AA AA

2. Can you move between strings?

Or A D A D
AA DD AA DD

3. **Your choice!** Pick a string (or two) and pluck one or both of the rhythms. (This is your first go at improvising.. you choose which string to play!)

4. Now look at these two rhythms (they are a mix of **crotchets** and **quavers** or 'frog's and 'monkey's!)

4 time: Count 1 2 3 4
4

1 and 2 3 and 4
Mon-key FROG Mon-key FROG

Quarter notes and Eighth notes or crotchets and quavers

1 and 2 3 4
Mon-key FROG FROG FROG

5. Can you pluck them on the D string?

DD D DD D or DD D D D


6. Now let's mix the strings up a bit, can you play

DD	A	DD	G
DD	A	D	A
AA	D	D	G


7. **You decide!** Can you choose one of the rhythms and play on any string you like? *Tip: you are improvising (making up your own music) so there is no right or wrong way to do this!!*

8. Now have a go at making up your own rhythm (swap the **crotchets** 'FROG's and **quavers** 'monkey's round to create your own rhythm) on any one string you like. *To make it a bit harder to could play on more than one string! Good luck!!*

You could also think of some of your own words to help you play different rhythms:

 I like beans- on toast!

 Rice Cris-pies taste good!

 My name-is Car-o-line

OPTIONAL EXTRA!! 😊

9. If you're feeling super confident and you want to try adding some first fingers to make it more interesting then feel free!

e.g. on A string

AA	B	A	A
00	1	0	0

10. **Keep going!** Improvising is a great way to warm up and practise playing your open strings. You can either pluck (*pizz*) or use your bow (*arco*)