



Percussion Discussion



Wyoming MEA 2018
Clinician: Artie Almeida
Sponsored by JW Pepper

Download the PPT for this clinic from my website: www.artiealmeida.com. Click on "Teacher Resources" then "Teacher Downloads" and scroll down near the bottom to the folder titled "WMEA18". This folder will be available from January 14th to January 21st.

KidStix: Rockin' Rhythm Readiness Lessons

The first five lessons are from the resource book *KIDSTIX*, by Artie Almeida

1. **Rhythm Readiness Echoes** (Today we performed *Rhythm Readiness Echoes #1 & #5*)

Focus: Note Values, Rhythm Patterns. Display score, discussing note & rest values and the logical order of the rhythm patterns. Teacher plays/speaks the patterns, and children echo in the following measure. Consider adding background music of your choice, fading it out when the exercise is complete. The KidStix book contains accompaniment for all warm-ups, play-alongs and scores.

2. **Folk Song and Patriotic Play-A-Longs** (We performed *Frere Jaques & Old Brass Wagon*)

Focus: Note Values, Rhythm Patterns. Display rhythmic notation to familiar folk songs/patriotic songs, looking for musical details such as time signatures, repeat signs, note and rest values, roll markings, etc. Children play along with the notation, while singing lyrics.

3. **Wipe-Out: Berryhill, Connor, Fuller & Wilson**

Focus: Single Eighth Notes. My students enjoy the sounds of the '60s with this piece of driving, percussive beach music. The ostinato-based patterns are easy for the students to master.

4. **Offenbach: Can Can**

Focus: Form, Rhythm Patterns. Practice this piece enough that you can teach it from the projected score, but then lead it (with the recording) from memory. This is one of my students' all-time faves! And their favorite parts, of course, are the ones that are the most challenging!

5. **Tchaikovsky: March from the Nutcracker** (No score is needed for this one. See below)

Focus: Rondo Form, Note Values, Rhythm Patterns. I don't use a score for this piece, but simply teach it to the children by rote. **A Section** = play rhythm on beatboard, clicking sticks on rests. Change to tambourine on dotted eighth/sixteenth pattern. **B Section** = Play two measures of stick click quarter notes, then two measures of stick click eighth notes. (Repeat). **C Section** = Roll on Crash Cans, with crescendo and decrescendo, matching the music. **Just for fun, I use replace the Stick Clicks of the B Section with "Pop Toobs", pulling them back and forth to create quarter notes and eighth notes. Keep them on a horizontally held drumstick or the children will damage them.**



