



Lesson Plan: Let's Groove!



Objective

Students will play the backbeat and its common variations.

Resources

[Beat Graphics on Jam Zone](#)

[Online Metronome](#)

Lesson/Unit Outline

1. Watch video one as a class. Practice the coordination in this order:
 - a. Vocalize the drumbeat
 - b. Both hands
 - c. Left hand (snare drum) and right foot (bass drum)
 - d. Back to both hands, then adding in the foot

***Note:** this sequence is not required, but typically helps students to be successful.
2. Find a song to play along to.
3. Students practice playing each beat. They can choose to play along with:
 - a. A metronome at the speed of their own choosing
 - b. A song that is an appropriate tempo
4. Students demonstrate for each other, in pairs or larger groups.
5. Students record a beat of their choice with a backing track (either a metronome or a song)

Extensions and Next Steps

1. Students can compose their own drum beats. They can add a snare drum or bass drum hit to the backbeat grid, and see how it sounds.
2. Students can share songs that they think use the backbeat or a similar variation. Listen together with the class and see if you can transcribe and play the beat. If the song is on the JamZone, it will have a suggested drum pattern.
3. Little Kids Rock has a large library of drumming concepts for drumset. Students can explore:
 - a. Building their own "[junk drumset](#)" and playing along.
 - b. Applying full drumset videos to their junk drumset. Try these units:
 - i. [Basic Drum Grooves](#)
 - ii. [Drum Fills](#)
 - iii. [Drum Beat Composition](#)

To learn more, visit jamzone.littlekidsrock.org