

Roland Classroom Activity: HP302 Piano

Lesson: **Steady Beat**

Concepts: Downbeats, Finding the Pulse, Counting a Steady Beat

Grades: K-6, 20 minutes

Preparation:

Three SONG files:

#31: *Radetzky Marsch*

#46: *Humoreske*

#71: *Fly Free*

National Standards Met:

Standard 2: Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

Students drum the pulse in a variety of music styles.

Standard 6: Listening to, analyzing, and describing music

Students listen to music files, find the pulse, then play

Detailed Lesson Plan:

- ❖ Tell students they will be finding the PULSE in different music.
- ❖ Play *Radetzky Marsch*. Students walk, wave, stomp, clap to the music. Choose a *gross motor* activity.
- ❖ As students move, begin counting a steady beat “1 2 3 4” or “1 2 3”. Ask students to count with you.
- ❖ As the music plays, begin counting “ONE” with a louder voice, slowly eliminating the remaining beats.
- ❖ Tell students that beat ONE, the strongest beat, is the DOWNBEAT. “We will be drumming DOWNBEATS ONLY on your piano”
- ❖ Instrument Options for remainder of lesson:
 - HP302, any tone selected
 - Drum Sticks
 - Rhythm Sticks
 - Hands tapping on legs
- ❖ Play *Radetsky March*. Students play/drum on DOWNBEAT ONLY.
- ❖ Play *Humoreske*. Listen together.
- ❖ Discuss the difference between pieces. Is this one faster? Slower?
- ❖ Students count with you, tapping the downbeat, accentuating ONE as they count.
- ❖ Play *Fly Free*. Listen together and discuss rhythm differences.
- ❖ Students play/drum a steady beat, accenting the downbeat.