



NAME _____

DATE _____

Playing with Numbers: In 6
MOZART Theme from Sonata in A Major, K.

PLAYING WITH METER



In many pieces of music, beats are divided into groups of 2s or 3s, but not always! Let's find out what beat grouping is used in this episode's music.

A **beat** is a basic unit of music and refers to a steady pulse that you feel in music. The grouping of strong and weak beats is called **meter**.

In this music, beats are not divided into groups of 2s or 3s, but they are divided into groups of 6! Listen carefully to Shiv and Kevin – are all 6 beats equal, or are some beats stronger than the others? If so, which beats are stronger?

Now, let's try to dance to see how it feels! Start counting out to 6 at a steady pace, and clap along to help feel the beat. Then, take a big step forward every time you say "1," and clap for counts 2 and 3, then a big step again on 4 and clap for counts 5 and 6.

1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>STEP!</i>				<i>STEP!</i>		<i>STEP!</i>				<i>STEP!</i>	

It's tricky! You can also shout "1" and whisper "2 - 3" and so on while you do this.

Can you feel the pulse?



TIME SIGNATURE

A time signature is the two numbers at the beginning of the written music. It tells us what the meter is and how many beats are in a group.

For example, the time signature of this Theme from a Sonata by Mozart is:

6 The top number tells us how many beats are in a group (6 beats per group), and
8 the bottom number tells us what note value gets the beat (an eighth note).

What would the time signature be if there are 3 beats in a group, and an eighth note gets the beat? Circle one.

9
8

2
8

3
8

5
8

What would the time signature be if there are 2 beats in a group, and an eighth note gets the beat? Circle one.

9
8

2
8

3
8

5
8