



## CLASS ACTIVITY: BIRDSONG BEATS

### OVERVIEW

In this activity, students will use pitch, rhythm, dynamics, and tempo to create their own birdsongs.

MATERIALS: Variety of rhythm instruments/noise makers, one per student

### INSTRUCTIONS

Start by discussing with the class the different sounds we hear birds make every day. Ask students to use musical terms to describe those sounds (i.e. "the bluebird tweet is a high pitch," "the duck quacks loudly," "the crow caws quickly," etc.)

Then divide the class into four smaller groups and assign each group a different bird, or have the groups decide which bird they would like to represent. Give the groups time to work together using their instruments to create their bird song. Once they are finished, have each group model their birdsong for the class. When the other groups are watching, they will act as "mockingbirds," mimicking each group's birdsong after they demonstrate it. Once every group has taken a turn, have all of the groups perform their birdsongs together as the "forest."

Have each group select a new bird and repeat the activity.