



In Five DESMOND "Take Five"

CLASS ACTIVITY: TAKE FIVE

OVERVIEW

SPACE CONSIDERATIONS: Students will need space to sit in a large circle.

MATERIALS: Bean bags (1 per student)

In this activity, students will demonstrate understanding of 5/4 meter through body percussion.

ORFF "TAKE FIVE" ACTIVITY

Students will sit on the floor in a circle. Start by having students count to 5 in a continuous steady rhythm. Now, add the following movements on each beat (all movements done with right hand only):

- Beat 1: tap floor in front of you
- Beat 2: tap right knee
- Beat 3: tap left knee
- Beat 4: tap floor in front of neighbor to the left of you
- Beat 5: clap

Have students practice the movements to a slow tempo first and speed the tempo up gradually as they become more comfortable. At any tempo, the goal is for the rhythm of the movements to remain steady.

Once students are comfortable with the movements, add bean bags. The movements remain the same, but with slight adjustments:

- Beat 1: pick up bean bag from floor in front of you
- Beat 2: tap right knee with bean bag
- Beat 3: tap left knee with bean bag
- Beat 4: put bean bag on floor in front of neighbor to the left of you
- Beat 5: clap

The pattern repeats, with students picking up the bean bag that was just placed in front of them by their neighbor on beat 1.



Now play along with Buddy's version of "Take Five" from this episode. For younger groups, a slowed down recording may be best.

[Slower version](#)

[Quicker version](#)

It may help students to count out the five rhythm a few times with the music before starting the movements. Be sure that all students start at the same time. Repeat movements until the piece is over.

OPTIONAL

Break students up into smaller circles and change circles after every repetition of the piece.