



Gorilla Beat

Animals

Jungle Animals



Resources

- [Gorilla Family Posters](#)

Aspect

4

Objective: To copy and keep to a simple beat.

Key Words: beat, song, rhythm, gorilla, tap, chest, copy

Small Group Activity

10 minutes

1. **'Gorillas love to beat their chests. Can you beat your chest?'** Model this and encourage children to practise beating their chests with their hands.
2. **'I know a family of gorillas. In their gorilla family, each gorilla has a different beat!'**
3. Show Daddy Gorilla from the [Gorilla Family Posters](#). **'This is Daddy Gorilla's beat.'** Model hitting your chest steadily. **'1, 2, 3, 4. 1, 2...'**
4. **'Can you copy Daddy Gorilla's beat?'** Children join in with hitting their chest steadily to the beat.
5. Show Mummy Gorilla. **'This is Mummy Gorilla's beat.'** Model hitting your chest twice and pausing before repeating. **'1, 2, pause. 1, 2, pause....'**
6. Introduce Baby Gorilla and Grandpa Gorilla with their own beats, e.g. **'1, pause, 2, pause. 1, pause, 2, pause...'** and **'1, 2, 3, pause. 1, 2, 3, pause...'**

Extension

7. **'If you were a gorilla, what would your beat be? Can you make up your own beat?'** Children could play their beat for a partner or the rest of the group to copy.

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Aspect 4: Rhythm and Rhyme

Strands covered:

- Tuning into rhythm
- Listening and remembering rhythms

Enhancements

- Set up a performance stage in the outdoor area for children to perform their gorilla beats. You could provide the gorilla mask from this set of [Jungle and Rainforest Role Play Masks](#).
- Using real branches and leaves, create a jungle scene in a sand tray for the children to explore. You could add claves or sticks for children to hit in time to a beat.

Look, Listen, Note

How well can the children...?

- watch/listen to a beat
- copy a simple beat
- join in with different beats

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