



PREPARATION – PRESENTATION – PRACTICE

STEADY BEAT: As with many things, steady beat can be quite abstract for a student. You can't teach a child to understand about steady beat without FEELING – they need to move! So first the most important thing
EXPERIENCE

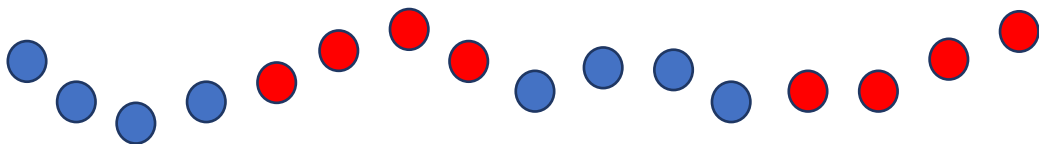
- Move together with others to experience steady beat
- Show steady beat in upper body movements – seated
- Walk a steady beat
- Show steady beat on instruments

THEN

Make the concept of beat CONSCIOUS. This can be done in a number of ways:

- Explain to the children that music has a STEADY BEAT – just like we have a heartbeat. When we have been swaying in *Swing me over the water* or showing actions in *Copy Cat* we have been showing the steady beat. Normally your foot taps the beat when you hear music!
- **Walk beat spots** on the floor – this helps to visually reinforce the child's understanding. Always a well-known rhyme to begin with – this is why we have a SONG AND RHYME BANK – use a known rhyme or song to teach a new concept.

If the rhyme has four lines and four beats in each line then lay the beats in the floor in groups of four and in four different colours to reinforce understanding



- Show the heartbeat on a flipchart or smartboard (or print them out on cards). Ask the children to tap the heartbeat as everyone sings a song. The children should point left to right always returning to the beginning of the line on the new phrase – alternatively have sixteen heart beats (see attached card which is ready to print)
Remember children need to FEEL SEE and HEAR to have a deep understanding

