

Rhythm



When we use words to sing rhythms, we call this **vocalizing**. Think of these words as nicknames. Your name might be James, but your friends call you Jimmy. Get it?

Use the word 'DAH' to vocalize a quarter note and the words 'dee ba' to vocalize eighth notes.

To swing the rhythms, use a long-short pattern when vocalizing the eighth notes.

Practice each rhythm several times and listen to the CD to hear both swing and straight versions.

Optional:

Try playing these rhythms on one note on the piano. Next, try playing the quarter notes on 'C' and the eighth notes on 'G'. Finally, try playing the C Major five-finger scale using these rhythms.

A

B

C

D

E

F


G


H

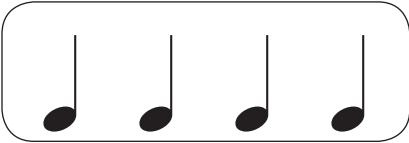


Listen to the CD or have your teacher play each example. The CD will say "Rhythm A." Match the rhythm you heard with the letter to the left. Do the same for all rhythms and melodies.

Rhythms:

A 

B 

C 

Melodies:

A 

B 

C 

Duet Part



Dancin' Don — **DUET PART**: Student plays one octave higher.

Swing ♩ = 110

F7 C7 F7

5 C7 F7 F#o7 C6 Amin D7b9 G7 C7

10 F7 C7 F7 C7

14 F7 F#o7 C6 Amin D7b9 G7 C7



3/4

Dancin' Don

Steady ♩ = 110

1 3

5

10

14

Improvisation

Improvising is when we make up something new ‘on-the-spot’ using what we already know. Improvising is a lot like speaking. When you speak, you arrange words on the spot to communicate. You do not make up words!

Just like speaking, we can build a vocabulary of ideas on the piano to use when improvising. These ideas are called **licks**.

A lick is a short melodic phrase that you use for improvisation. It is a melodic motif.

STEPS:

1. Practice the C minor five-finger scale.
2. Vocalize and play each lick by itself a few times.
3. Play the licks with your teacher or the CD accompaniment.

C MINOR FIVE-FINGER SCALE



STUDENT PART



| A | B | C |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | |
| dee ba dee ba DAH DAH | dee ba dee ba DAH DAH | DAH DAH dee ba dee ba |

TEACHER PART: Student plays one octave higher.

Band



Medium swing

“Call”

“Response”

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