

## Rhythm Is to Music as...

**Target Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Subject Area and/or Objectives:**

Music/Fine Arts;

To introduce children to rhythm in music and to show how important rhythm in music is, even though it may be in the “background.”

**Connection to MOTley Performance:** *Rhythm Is* explains how rhythm in everyday life frames the music of or lives.

**Lead-in/Bridge-in Activity:**

Play a few different samples of the music (anything with a good beat will do) for the students and have them figure out the beat, specifically the rhythm sections, like percussion and bass guitar. For each one, have them keep time with the beat by using a different motion, i.e. clapping hands, stomping feet, tapping desk, etc. Explain how this rhythm is the backbone of music, and how it helps keep time for the whole piece. Talk about how important rhythm is to music and how it is an often overlooked component.

**Main Activity:**

Have the students each come up with one or two analogies as for rhythm in music as they see relating to everyday life, starting with the phrase “Rhythm is...” (e.g. cheese on a pizza, the stars in the sky, the wheels on a roller skate). When each student has finished, have them read their analogy to the class and maybe share more of what they mean by it.

**Bridge-out Activity:**

Collect all the phrases and put them together to form a poem entitled “Rhythm Is,” which will be displayed prominently on the wall in the classroom, under which will be written “by—“ and each student will write their name as co-authors of the poem

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