

The Star-Spangled Banner



What baseball game in America would be complete without the singing of *The Star-Spangled Banner*? Consider singing it before playing any of the games from *Play Ball!*

One of the questions students often ask when singing *The Star-Spangled Banner* is, “What are ramparts?” A *rampart* is a protective barrier or wall-like ridge, often made from rocks or dirt.

Baseball is often referred to as “America’s Pastime.” Did you know that it is also the national sport of Cuba and The Dominican Republic?

“I see great things in baseball. It’s our game—the American game.” —Walt Whitman



The Star-Spangled Banner

Words by Francis Scott Key
Music by John Stafford Smith
Arr. by Mark Burrows

The piano introduction consists of two staves of music in 3/4 time, featuring a key signature of three flats (B-flat major). The melody is primarily in the right hand, with a supporting bass line in the left hand.

4

O — say, can you see, by the dawn's ear - ly light. What so

The first vocal line begins at measure 4. The melody is in the right hand, with a piano accompaniment in the left hand. The lyrics are: "O — say, can you see, by the dawn's ear - ly light. What so".

9

proud - ly we hailed at the twi - light's last gleam - ing? Whose broad

The second vocal line begins at measure 9. The melody is in the right hand, with a piano accompaniment in the left hand. The lyrics are: "proud - ly we hailed at the twi - light's last gleam - ing? Whose broad".

13

stripes and bright stars, through the per - il - ous fight, O'er the

The third vocal line begins at measure 13. The melody is in the right hand, with a piano accompaniment in the left hand. The lyrics are: "stripes and bright stars, through the per - il - ous fight, O'er the".

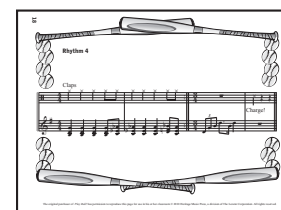
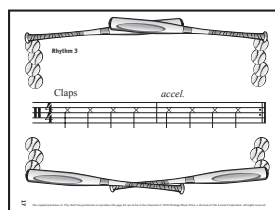
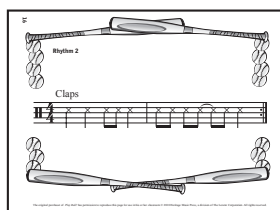
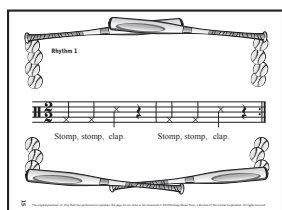
Rhythms of the Great Game



Each of these rhythms is played numerous times at baseball games, especially those in professional and semi-professional parks.

Preparation

- Enlarge and display the visuals on the next four pages or write them on your board.



- Set out an assortment of non-pitched percussion instruments.

Play Ball!

1. Tell the students that you will play one of the rhythms and that they should silently indicate which rhythm they think it is by holding up the number of fingers (one, two, three, or four) to their chests. This way you will be able to quickly see which students are able to identify the rhythms accurately.
2. Repeat the rhythm and ask the students if they can identify how/when it is usually heard at a baseball game.
3. Repeat the process with the remaining rhythms until all of them have been identified.
4. Set out an assortment of non-pitched percussion instruments and review, if needed, how to play each one.
5. Choose a student to play one of the rhythms for the class, and then that child can choose a classmate to correctly identify the rhythm that he/she played. If the student identifies the correct rhythm they can then choose a new instrument and rhythm.
6. Repeat several times allowing many children to play and guess the rhythms.

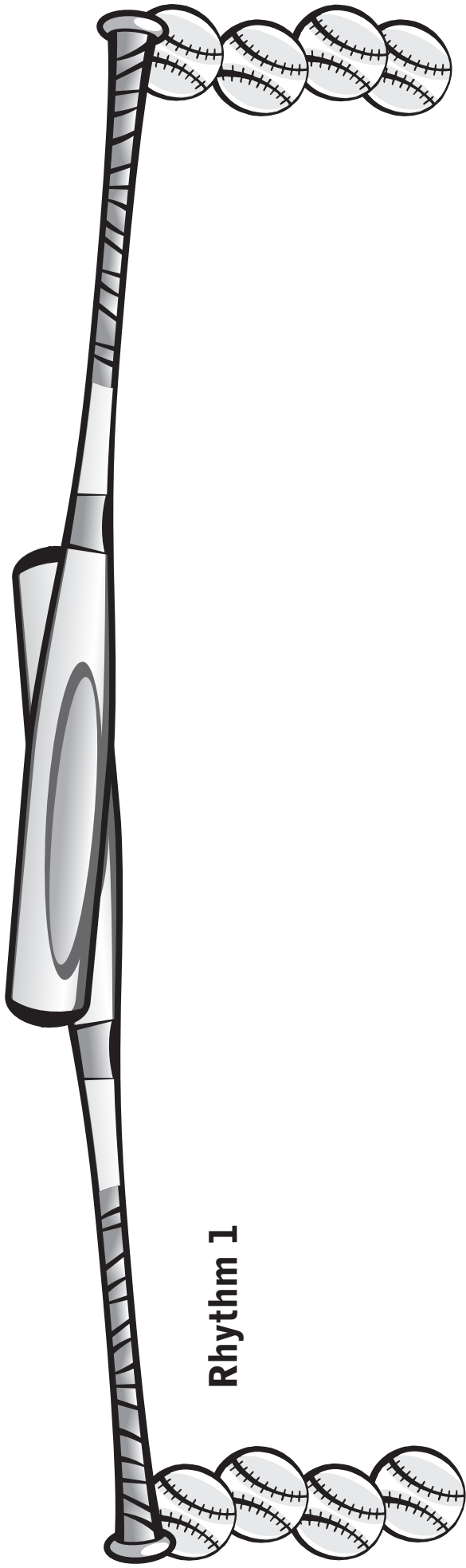
Variation

Rhythm 3 offers a good study in steady beat. Have you ever been to a game where everyone started to clap a steady beat that got faster and faster? What usually happens? The clapping gets so fast and out of control that the whole thing unravels.

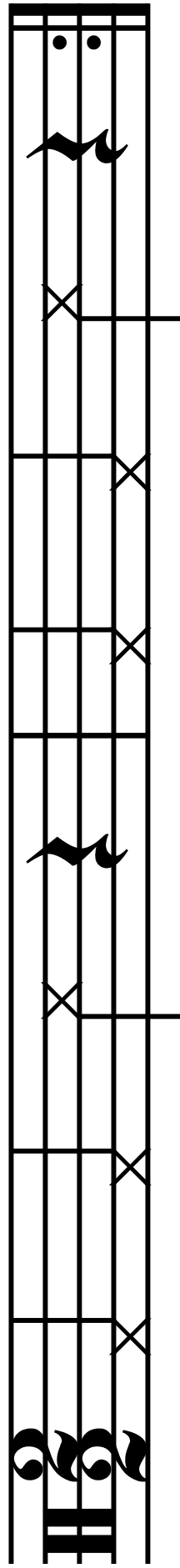
Have your students practice clapping the steady beat. See how long they can go without speeding up. This is harder than it seems.

Variation

Teach your students a simple call-and-response lesson using Rhythm 4. After the clapping has gone on for a while there is a break and the familiar trumpet-like call is played. Everyone responds by yelling, "charge!" It's irresistible.

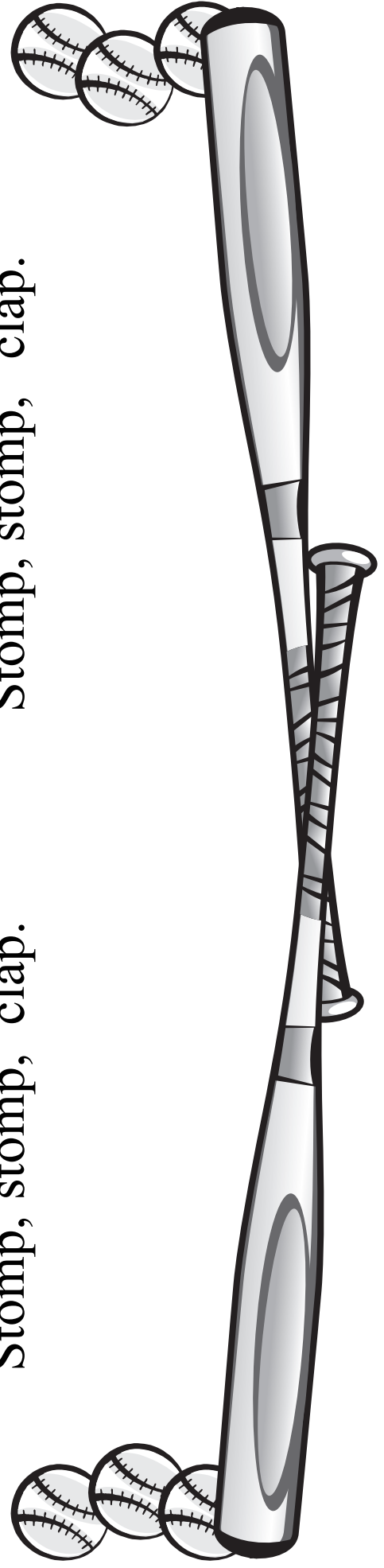


Rhythm 1



Stomp, stomp, clap.

Stomp, stomp, clap.



Seventh Inning Stretch: Take Me Out to the Ball Game



This is one of *the* great American songs. At some point you may wish to share this information with your students:

Take Me Out to the Ball Game was written by Jack Norworth while he was on a train ride in Manhattan. The music is by Albert Von Tilzer. At the time it was written, neither Norworth nor Tilzer had ever been to a baseball game. This song is sung in the middle of the seventh inning, during what is known as the seventh inning stretch.

One of the biggest mistakes people make is singing “cracker jacks” instead of the correct “cracker jack.” Cracker Jack® is caramel-coated popcorn and peanuts. It comes in a box and has a little toy or prize inside. Cracker Jack® was created by Frederick William Rueckheim and his brother Louis. It was first served at the 1893 World’s Fair in Chicago.

If you play Music Baseball or any of the other games in *Play Ball!* consider singing *Take Me Out to the Ball Game* at some point to break up the action and keep the games fresh.



Take Me Out to the Ball Game

Words by Jack Norworth
Music by Albert Von Tilzer
Arr. Mark Burrows

The piano introduction consists of five measures. The right hand features a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes: G2, B2, D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4.

5

Measures 5-9. The vocal line begins with a whole rest in measure 5, followed by a half rest in measure 6, and then the lyrics "Take me" in measures 7-8. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and single notes.

10

Measures 10-14. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "out to the ball game Take me out to the". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and single notes.

15

Measures 15-19. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "crowd Buy me some pea - nuts and Crack - er". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and single notes.