



**MAKE ART  
ANYWAY.**

ART ACTIVITY  
INSTRUCTIONS:

**DRUMMING “FANGA”  
RHYTHM**

@ARTSCORPS

#MAKEARTANYWAY

# DRUMMING “FANGA” RHYTHM

**Discipline:** Music

**Age Range:** K - 8

**Creator:** Sumayya E. Diop

**Contact:**  
integration@artscorps.org

**Materials:**  
Djembe’ Drum

**Vocabulary:**  
Djembe  
Bowl (of drum)  
Mouth (of drum)  
Stem (of drum)  
Fanga  
Base  
Tones  
Guinea  
Senegal  
West Africa

Learn to play the Djembe’ drum rhythm for the song, “Fanga Alaffia Ase’ Ase’”. Use your body (**snap**, **clap** and **tap**) as an instrument and tools to keep in time with rhythm.

## Learning Goals:

- You will learn the history and parts of the djembe drum.
- You will learn how to create the bass and tone sound on drum.
- You will create a rhythm using hands and feet as bass and tone with a count of 8.
- You will learn the drum rhythm for “Fanga”: Bass-tone-tone-tone + Bass-bass-tone-tone.

## Activity Opening:

We’re going to learn to play a rhythm on a djembe drum today. Do you know where the djembe drum is from? It’s a prized musical instrument from Guinea in West Africa.

Drums have to breath, just like humans, and that’s why the drum’s **stem** is hollow — so it can get a lot of breath.

Get your instrument! Do you have djembe drum in your house? If not you can use a pot or pan from the kitchen, or use your **SNAP**, **CLAP** and **TAP**!

The **bass** is in the center of the drum or pot. It will be a deep sound. If you’re using your hands you can **CLAP** for the bass.

The **tone** is on the outer rim of the drum or pot. It will be a lighter sound than the bass. If you’re using your hands, you can **TAP** your foot on the ground for the tone. **Let’s warm-up!**



**8** bass, then **8** tones  
**4** bass, then **4** tones  
**2** bass, then **2** tones  
**1** bass, then **1** tone

**TWO** times  
**TWO** times  
**FOUR** times  
**EIGHT** times



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## **Steps/Instructions:**

Let's play that Fanga!

Watch Sister Sumayya play the rhythm on the video [here](#).

*Using Drum:* bass-tone-tone-tone + bass-bass-tone-tone

*Using hands & feet:* Hands as bass, feet as tones.

*Hands:* Bass

*Feet:* Tone tone tone

*Hands:* Bass Bass

*Feet:* Tone tone

Practice Practice Practice!

## **Activity Closing: Now What?**

Practice slow and then quicken as you become better acquainted with rhythm.

Can you drum the beat and have another person dance to your rhythm?

Can you sing the song from Sister Sister Sumayya's lesson "Fanga Alaffia Ase' Ase"?

**Teach the rhythm to a friend or family member and see if they can learn it with you!**

**CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO  
VERSION OF THIS LESSON.**

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