ART ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

DRUMMING “FANGA” RHYTHM

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#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.

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 TWO times
4 bass, then 4 tones TWO times
2 bass, then 2 tones FOUR times
1 bass, then 1 tone EIGHT times
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**Steps/Instructions:**

Let’s play that Fanga!

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


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 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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