



KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: MUSICAL DIMENSIONS 1

Beat	The steady unit of rhythm you tap your toes to when listening
Note value	The duration of time to play a note
Rest	A musical silence
Pulse	This is a steady series of beats like a heartbeat The pulse can be measured in beats per

RHYTHM



*Rhythm is a pattern of the musical sounds and silences that occur over time like the steps in a dance, or the words in a poem or song

*A beat is a unit division of musical time. It is regular and ordered like footsteps. Rhythm is a sequence of sounds that fit around the beat in patterns

We learn how to read and write 4 beat rhythm patterns. We feel the rhythm by clapping, moving and speaking it. We put insect names to rhythm patterns but any words can help

AFRICAN MUSIC



*African music makes more creative use of rhythm in music

*African music is an integral part of everyday life and practically every event of importance to the culture is celebrated with music, singing and dancing

***Polyrhythms** are abundantly used in African music. This means two or more different rhythmic patterns are played at the same time.

*African musicians do not read rhythms when they play, they are passed down through generations and remembered. Much of African music is **improvised**. Africa is a huge place and musical styles vary in many African countries


*African instruments include harp like instruments called the *Kora* and the *Ngoni*, the *Kalimba* (thumb piano) and the *Djembe* drums



Listen to **Sona Jobarteh** and **Ballake Sissoko** play the Kora

 bee	 cat-er-pill-ar	 grass-hopp-er	 la-dy-bird	 spi-der	 worm_____
					

1 2 3 4



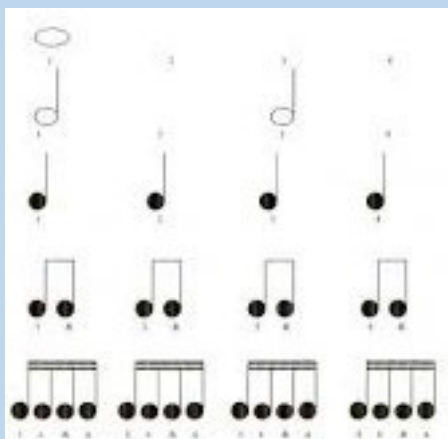
Crotchet Crotchet Quaver Quaver Crotchet
 1 beat + 1 beat + 1/2 beat + 1/2 beat + 1 beat
 Count the pulse: 1 2 3 4
 The rhythm sounds like Bee Bee Spider Bee

A conductor stands in front of a group of musicians or a choir. Their job is to set the tempo (the speed) and clearly indicate the pulse. They indicate a clear beginning so everyone starts at the same time. A conductor also indicates to the group to play louder or smoother or more sweetly. Different conductors might interpret the same music slightly differently. A conductor holds a white stick called a baton to make signals clear.



1 2 3 4

NOTE VALUE



SEMIBREVE—play for 4 beats


MINIM—play for 2 beats

CROTCHET—play for 1 beat

QUAVER—play for 1/2 a beat

SEMIQUAVER—play for 1/4 of a beat

Rest




Worm

Bee

Spider

Caterpillar