



Cumbia Rhythm 2 - Guacharaca



Objective

Students will play a cumbia rhythmic pattern on the guira, guacharaca or comparable percussion instrument.

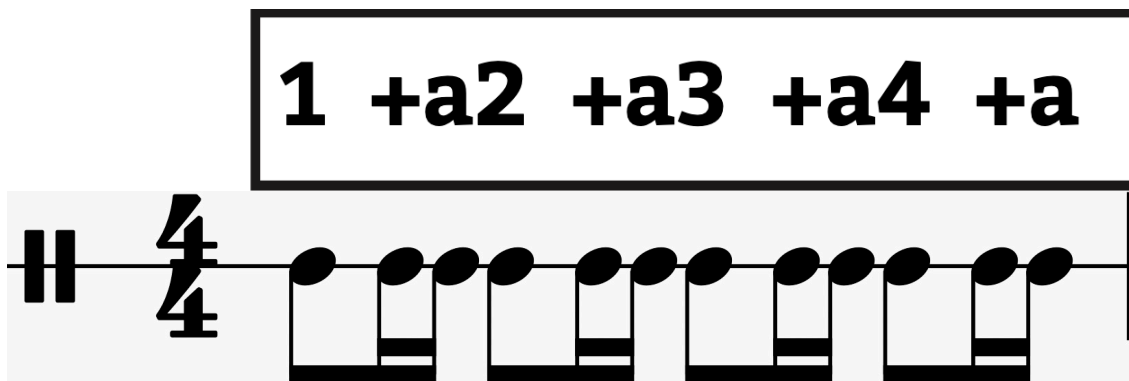
Key Terms

Guacharaca: a percussion instrument from Colombia, usually made from the trunks of small palm trees. It has the shape of a tube with ridges cut into it and is played by using a wire fork.

Guira: a percussion instrument from the Dominican Republic, made from a metal sheet and played with a stiff brush. The guira is used in various styles including: merengue, bachata, cumbia and other latin styles.

Procedures

1. Students will pick up a guira or other percussive instrument that they could brush in an upward and downward motion. Students can also use their left hand as a makeshift guira and brush with their right hand.
2. Students will begin by brushing the guira with a down stroke on beat 1. They will then do another down stroke followed by a quick up stroke. This can be notated as two sixteenth notes on the "and - a" of beat 1.
3. Students will then repeat this rhythmic pattern on beats 2, 3 and 4.
4. Students will practice this pattern at a slow tempo first, at approximately 60-70 BPM.
5. Once students feel comfortable repeating the rhythm, they can play it at tempo which is at 88 BPM.



Extension

Students will research how to make their own guira. This could involve them making a guira out of a water bottle or other items that they might have in their home.

National Core Arts Standards

MU:Pr6.1.6a - Perform the music with technical accuracy to convey the creator's intent.