

# LET'S LEARN TO DRUM

## Objectives:

**Children will know:** Children will learn the importance of drumming to Alaska Native culture.

**Children will do:** Children will use their drums to play songs.

## Essential Questions:

- What is rhythm?
- How are drums important to Alaska Native culture?

## Standards:

L7. Sings, uses finger plays, and recites rhymes or poems.

L10. Follows directions.

L13. Persists, attends and engages.

L14. Recalls people, places, objects and experiences and makes connections.

L21: Demonstrate eye hand coordination in different tasks.

M1. Continues a simple pattern.

SSC2. Participates in multi-cultural art activities, song, & dance.

## Materials:

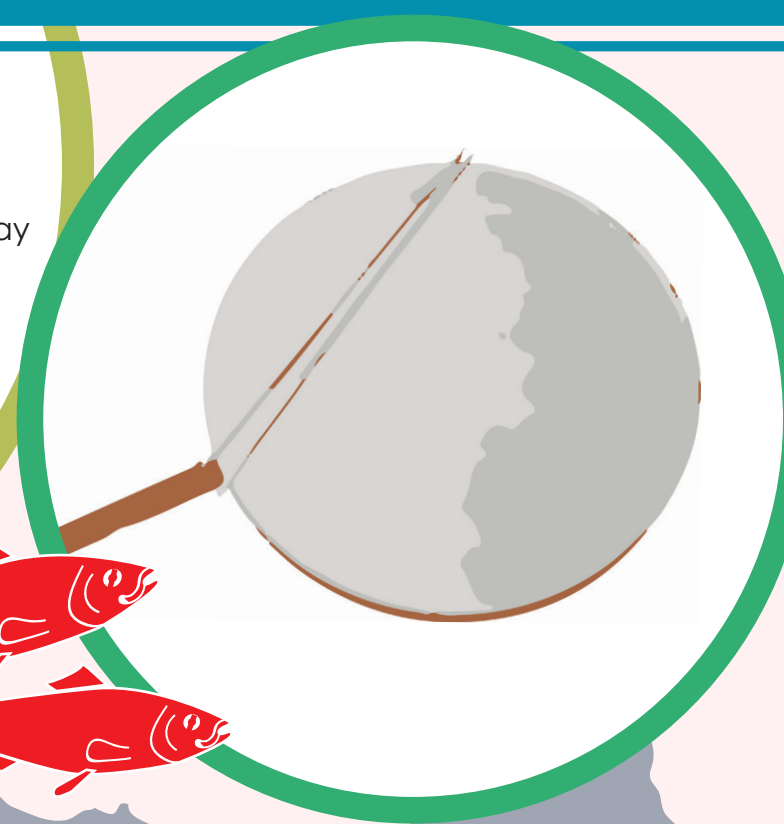
- Drum
- Rhythm Sheets (In Kit)
- Music: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, Good Morning Song, Happy and You Know It Audio Files (In Kit)
- Drum Graphic (In Kit)

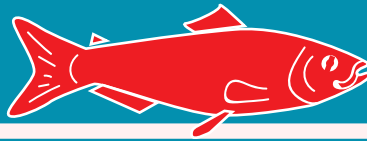
## Alaska Native Values:

Learning by doing, Our Heritage, Practice of Native Traditions

## Promoting Culture Self Assessment:

- 1. I display pictures, posters and other materials that reflect the cultures and ethnic backgrounds of children and families served in my early childhood program or setting.
- 6. I encourage and provide opportunities and experiences for children that support Alaska Native culture.
- 8. I play a variety of music including Alaska Native music and introduce musical instruments from many cultures including Alaska Native.
- 11. I provide opportunities for children to share and learn traditional Alaska Native gross motor activities.





## Engage

Hello Class, today we will learn about drums. Who knows what a drum is?" Wait for answers. "Can you show me how to play the drum with your hands and legs?" See if they start drumming on their legs. Demonstrate this for them as well. "In Alaska Native culture, drums are a big part of celebrations and music. Let's watch some videos of how drums are used for music and dance." Bring up videos on youtube. "Let's use our drums to make music."

## Explore:

Activity: 10 minutes

"Hi Class, today we are going to learn about rhythm. Does anyone know what rhythm is?"

Wait for answers.

"When we listen to music we like, sometimes we want to clap our hands or jump to the way it sounds. That is the rhythm of the song."

Choose a song from the kit. Set out pictures of the Yup'ik Drum to demonstrate where they should clap/play on their drums in relation to the song. Line them up according to the rhythm. Use the rhythm sheets in kits to guide where to place them on the floor. Demonstrate the song by singing and clapping your hands/drumming. After the first demonstration, have them follow you. Point out that wherever there is a Yup'ik drum is where they clap/drum.

"Great job! Let's play some songs together."

Demonstrate each song in English and then have them join in. Then play each song in Alutiiq (song files and words are located in kit) and have the children demonstrate rhythm. Use the rhythm sheets for guides.

## Explain:

"Drumming is a very important part of Alaska Native culture. The Alutiiq word for drum is "CAUYAQ" which means drum or music. Drums were often used in celebrations. These songs and dances were used to transport participants into a magical realm where spirits were asked for help. Music is used for storytelling and is a form of prayer. What do you like to do when you listen to music? Do you listen to different music depending on how you are feeling?"

## Center Set Up:

### Whole Group:

Display essential questions. Display drums. Encourage students to play the drums.

**Art Center:** Set out containers with lids and crafting supplies to have students decorate their own drums.

**Sensory Center:** Place sand or objects on a drum. Have students hit the drum and watch the sand or objects move with the sound.

# EVALUATION

### Emerging:

The student listens to directions about drum rhythms.

### Developing:

The student shares a cultural experience they have seen or heard about.

### Proficient:

The student can use their drums or hands to make rhythms with limited help.

### Advanced:

The student shares more than one cultural experience and relate it to their drum.

