

In the Playground

activities

1.	Guess the chant	Rhythm
•	The teacher claps the rhythm of the chant "Marco Polo"	-
•	Children guess which chant is being clapped.	Listening
•	Continue with the rhythm of one of the other playground	
	chants	
2.	Slower and faster	Tempo
•	Children imagine that they are 1) snails and 2) ants, moving	
	around the room accordingly. (if space is not available,	
	children move fingers on desks)	
•	Sing the song and walk the beat 1) as snails and 2) as ants.	
3.	Sing and Move (younger children)	Structure
•	Skip around the room while singing the chorus (or skip	
	fingers on desk)	
•	Stand still and clap the beat while chanting each verse.	
•	Resume skipping when chorus returns	
4.	Hide and Seek	Dynamics
•	One person leaves the room while the class hides an object.	-
•	When she/he returns, the class sings the song, getting louder	
	as the searcher gets nearer and softer as she/he gets further	
	away.	
	Change direction	Structure
•	Children sing the song and clap once each time a new	
	phrase (musical sentence) occurs.	
	Eg: "In the playground" - one phrase.	
	"Lots of games to play in the playground." –one phrase.'	
•	Now, walk around the room, keeping the beat. Change	
	direction for each new phrase.	
6.		Beat
•	Play the beat of the song while the class sings	
•	Repeat this while a child notates the beat on a whiteboard:	