Valentines Day Rhythms

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Practicing and Composing with Sixteenth Notes

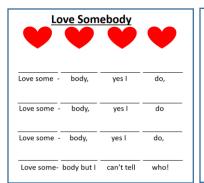
The steps of this lesson will take more than one class period.

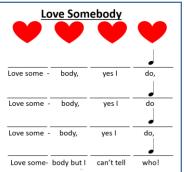
1. Learn the folk song, Love Somebody.

Love Somebody

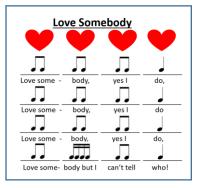


2. Isolate the mystery rhythm, sixteenth notes, using a series of slides such as:









- 3. Practice speaking the song on rhythm syllables, and practice performing it on body percussion. I like to use pats for sixteenth notes, claps for eighth notes, and hands out for quarter notes.
- 4. Compose! You will need partner groups to have 4 paper hearts for the floor and a set of rhythm cards (2 or 3 of each note value)
 - Students should create a 4 beat pattern with their partner by putting four different note value cards underneath each of the four hearts. They should practice speaking their pattern four times in a row with their partner while pointing to each card on every beat. Hint: It helps to keep a beat underneath them on an instrument at first.
 - Once solid, start making compositions in continuous flow in rondo form. So, while the class sings the song Love Somebody twice in a row, one of the partners creates a 4 beat pattern. Immediately after the song is finished, all partner groups speak/point to their rhythms (four times in a row). This is followed immediately by singing the song again, while the other partner creates their 4 beat pattern. Etc.
 - Have each group pick their "favorite" rhythm and speak theirs for the class alone (and in rondo form with the class singing the song).