# Elementary Lesson Plan

# <u>Objective</u>

The students will understand the concept of Play/Rest by clapping when they see a note, and not clapping when they see a rest.

# <u>Purpose</u>

- To lay the foundation for the concept that notes and rests have different durational values. The understanding of the Play/Rest concept is the first of three lessons regarding this topic.
- To set the groundwork for teaching counterpoint and allow the students to develop their performance skills through the rhythmic exercises in the procedure.

#### Materials Needed

- A large space for students to move freely
- A computer lab that provides each student with a computer or one class computer with a LCD projector
- A picture or a prop of a red light and a green light
- Computer software Finale for instructor to create rhythmic examples, and Thinkin' Things, Collection 2 by Ed Mark

# <u>Anticipatory Set</u>

Begin the class by playing the game Red Light Green Light.

# <u>Procedure</u>

- 1. Begin instruction by having the students play Red Light Green Light as a class.
- 2. Make the comparison that Red Light Green Light can be related to music. Note: To limit confusion, the instructor will only use quarter notes and quarter note rests to create comparisons and examples.
- 3. Draw a quarter note on the board, and make the relationship that a quarter note = a green light or go.
- 4. Draw a quarter rest, and make the comparison that a quarter rest = a red light or stop.
- 5. Display six lines of single note rhythms comprised of quarter notes and quarter note rests using the LCD projector.
- 6. Instruct the students as a group to clap the quarter notes and not clap the quarter note rests.
- 7. Ask for volunteers to perform these rhythmic lines individually.

- 8. Separate the class into various groups, and have each group be responsible for clapping one of the lines.
- 9. Have groups perform their lines one at a time in front of the class.
- 10. Have the class explore various combinations of groups performing their lines at the same time.

# Check for Student Understanding

Teacher will have the students use Thinkin' Things, Collection 2 to reinforce this concept.

### <u>Closure</u>

Teacher asks the students to compare the similarities and differences between Red Light Green Light and quarter notes and quarter note rests (Note: Pay attention to see if students mention the idea of time, or length that a note lasts).

#### Extensions

- 1. The exploration of notes and rests that are subdivisions of the quarter note value (i.e. eighth notes and eighth note rests).
- 2. The exploration of notes and rests that are extensions of the quarter note value (i.e. half notes and half rests).

