

Max the Monkey's Musical Patterns

Learning objective: To understand and create a simple rhythmic pattern using musical notation symbols.

Max the Monkey loves to solve maths puzzles. In music, a bar is like a maths equation that must add up! Look at the symbols below. A 'Crochet' equals 1 beat. A 'Quaver' equals half a beat. Each bar must equal 4 beats. Use the symbols to fill in the missing beats in Max's rhythm patterns. You can use Crochets (1 beat) or pairs of Quavers (1 beat for the pair).

Word bank: Bar · Beat · Crochet · Quaver · Rhythm · Composer

1. Pattern 1: Crochet (1) + Crochet (1) + ? + ? = 4 beats. Draw two symbols to finish the bar. (2 marks)

2. Pattern 2: Quaver pair (1) + Quaver pair (1) + ? + ? = 4 beats. Draw two symbols to finish the bar. (2 marks)

3. Pattern 3: Crochet (1) + ? + Crochet (1) + ? = 4 beats. Draw two symbols to finish the bar. (2 marks)

4. If Max has 4 beats in a bar, how many beats would he have if he played two bars? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the Monkey playing a drum to keep a steady beat. You could draw some musical notes floating in the air around him!

Extension challenge: Can you invent your own 4-beat pattern using a mix of Crochets and Quaver pairs? Write it out below using your own symbols.