

# Pop Music and Orff- A Natural Combination



Florida Music Educators Association  
January 2024

Jennifer Donovan  
Platte City, MO  
jenniferdonovan71@gmail.com

These notes are for the use of workshop participants only and for use with children.  
They may not be duplicated or distributed without the permission of the clinician.

## **Warm Up: Simultaneous Imitation**

Recording: Can't Stop the Feeling from Trolls, Justin Timberlake

## **Voice and Choice**

Why is this important in our classrooms?

How do you use voice and choice?

## **Keetman's rhythmic building bricks**

Carl Orff's colleague, Gunild Keetman wrote a book entitled Elementaria in which she explains the basic premise of Orff Schulwerk along with practical strategies for classroom application. Her term "rhythmic building bricks" refers to the smallest rhythmic units that become the basis for further rhythmic development activities, and improvisation. The "rhythmic building bricks" or "blocks" are found in poems and songs.

## **Building Bricks and Hand Drums**



Example #1:

The Beatles, "Come Together"

Form:

4321 (4x)

V1 (32)

4321 (4x)

V2 (32)

Refrain (8)

4321 (4x)


V3 (32)




Refrain (8)

4321 (2x)

## **Body Percussion Accompaniment**

Darius Rucker, “Wagon Wheel”

Intro  (8x)  
Step, step, clap

Verse  (8x)   |  (4x)  
step snap pat clap snap clap pat clap snap

Refrain  (4x) SWAY (8x)  
Step, step, clap

Interlude  (8x)  
Step, step, clap

REPEAT Verse and Refrain

FADE

## **Building Bricks and Body Percussion/Unpitched Instruments**

Moana, “How Far I’ll Go”

Form:

Intro

V1-48 bts

Refrain-32 bts

V2-48 bts

Refrain-extended