

# investigating pulse and rhythm starting to read rhythms

keystage 1  
songing skills  
autumn 2013

## red leaves flutter CD tracks 7 & 8

anon

Red leaves flut - ter      Yel - low leaves fall

Brown leaves are gath - er - ing      All a - long the wall

The image shows two lines of musical notation on a single staff. The first line is in 4/4 time and contains two phrases: 'Red leaves flut - ter' and 'Yel - low leaves fall'. The second line also contains two phrases: 'Brown leaves are gath - er - ing' and 'All a - long the wall'. The notation uses quarter notes, half notes, and rests to represent the rhythm of the words.

### How it works

♪ Use this as a way of introducing simple rhythm reading and for getting children to feel how a rhythm links with a pulse.

♪ Establish a pulse of 4 and chant the piece. When the children are familiar with it, ask half to chant the piece and clap the rhythm of the words, ask half to tap the pulse of 4. Swap.

♪ Divide the class into four groups. Share the chant between the groups.

*Group 1 "Red leaves flutter"*

*Group 2 "Yellow leaves fall"*

*Group 3 "Brown leaves are gathering"*

*Group 4 "All along the wall"*

♪ Can they keep the pulse going - to do this the children will have to have internalised the pulse and be able to anticipate their turn.

♪ Perform it as a round

♪ Perform with one group chanting one phrase over and over as a rhythmic ostinato

♪ Use sticks or hand held percussion instruments.

♪ Introduce the rhythm cards (one at a time). Can the children work out which is which?

♪ Can they play the rhythms from the cards?

♪ Find new words to fit the rhythms.