Activity

GIMME A BEAT: PASS OR REMIX

In this rhythm-based activity, students pass a beat around the circle—but with a twist. Each kid must decide: do they pass the beat as given, or do they remix it and make it their own? Use this activity to help sharpen listening skills, encourage bold choices and build community through play.

Materials Needed: none

- 1. Gather the group in a circle, seated or standing. Let the kids know that this activity is about listening to each other and playing with rhythm.
- 2. Demonstrate a short, simple, three-part beat using your body (e.g., stomp, clap, snap). Let kids know that a beat can be made with sounds, gestures or movement.
- 3. Turn to the person on your right and invite them to "try this beat." Next, invite them to "Pass this beat exactly as I did it—or remix it and make it your own." Let them know that, if they remix it, they can change some or all of it.
- 4. Once they've made their choice, invite them to pass their beat along to the person on their right, ask them to repeat it and then say, "Pass or remix?" After that person chooses, invite them to demonstrate their beat, pass to their right and so on.
- 5. As the beat continues to move and evolve, encourage kids to watch and listen closely so they're ready to jump in when it's their turn. If someone forgets the beat, let the person before them repeat it to support them.
- **6.** After the beat has traveled around the full circle, pause and check in with the group:
 - What did you notice about the changes that happened?
 - Was it harder to pass or remix? Why?
 - Did anyone make a remix you really enjoyed?
- 7. Play another round with a new starting beat and encourage more adventurous remixes. You might prompt students with a vibe or style—"make it sneaky," "make it joyful" or "make it sound like outer space"—to inspire more creativity.

Reflection Questions:

beat you passed along?

What influenced your decision to pass or

remix the beat when it was your turn?

How did it feel when someone remixed the



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