



# Street Beat's Repurposed Percussion

School Show Study Guide  
from the Artist

Luther Burbank Center for the Arts  
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# STREET BEAT ASSEMBLY INFO FOR “Re-Purposed Percussion”

Level: Elementary/ Middle/ High  
Artform: Music

## **Program Description:**

Street Beat is a percussion based music program for California based schools. Inspired by the theatrical success “Stomp”, we use house hold items as percussion instruments. Our mission is to give students a solid understanding of the nuts and bolts of music – Rhythm & Percussion. Through an engaging standards based program, Street Beat meets the needs of diverse student populations, incl. students with any special needs, language barriers and other. We teach, uplift and inspire students of all backgrounds to incorporate music playing into their daily lives. We integrate drumming as a creative learning tool that addresses life skills and enhances the mind, body and spirit. Street Beat is part of Los Angeles County Arts Commission’s **Arts for All** program and Orange County Performing Arts Center’s **Arts Teach** program.

Our instructors introduce and define basic music terms such as; pattern, beat, note, tempo, high/low sounds, pitch, pulse and counting. Through immediate practical exercises and applications the students discover and understand how these concepts together create the backbone of music. Our learning plan aligns with California’s Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards.

Students actively participate in all parts of the assemblies. The musicians explore and examine, with the students, the different sounds that Street Beat’s stage setup creates. Students will learn about high/low sounds, long/short sounds (sustain), soft/loud sounds (dynamics) etc. Students compare and contrast the examined sound concepts through to a variety of music pieces performed by the Street Beat musicians.

## **Six questions or exercises for before show:**

1. What is Percussion?
2. Describe Rhythm as a concept.
3. Describe how music is part of YOUR everyday life.
4. Can music be made out of anything?
5. What do you think Street Beat’s “Re-Purposed Percussion” means?
6. Tones: Describe the difference between a high tone and a low tone.

## **Six questions or exercises for after the show:**

1. Explore the difference between low/high notes & loud/soft notes.
2. Do you remember the Paradiddle?
3. Name 4 items that you can find at home, that can be used/re-purposed as percussion instruments.
4. Why is it important to count when we play music?
5. Describe the basic concept of “Call & Response”.
6. Describe how you can start practicing starting today.

Street Beat recommend teachers to further explore making percussive music with students. A good solid setup for this is to have each student work with 1 bucket and 1 pair of drumsticks. Professional Development is available for teachers to gather the basic knowledge of percussion to lead percussive music activities with students and reach a successful culminating assessment.

## **P.D. Content:**

2 x 60 min sessions where class room teachers, together with a Street Beat master drummer, engage in playing a variety of rhythmic structures that bit by bit are pieced together. The sessions are uplifting and will generate a sensation of tribal unity amongst the staff. The sessions will cover all concepts and terms of our Arts Learning Plan and will enable class room teachers to continue a percussion curriculum on their own.

**P.D. Max limit:** 30 teachers.