

Vivaldi's Thunderstorm - body percussion piece

This activity works best with a large group, standing in a circle. The sounds start off very quietly and build up to a noisy storm. Then, as the storm passes, the volume goes back down from loud to quiet. The leader stands in the centre of the circle and introduces each new sound, showing each action, moving gradually around the circle. As the leader shows the action to your section you can change to the new sound. This creates a domino effect. (There should always be two sounds happening at one time but don't change action until the leader looks/walks past you.)

1. Rub hands together.
2. Click fingers. (or tap palm lightly with 2 fingers if you can't click)
3. Pat thighs softly.
4. Pat thighs louder.
5. Clap softly.
6. Clap louder.
7. Thunder stamps.
8. During loud clapping, make thunder sounds vocally (booms, rumbles, etc.).
9. Clap softly.
10. Pat thighs loudly.
11. Pat thighs softer.
12. Click fingers.
13. Rub hands together.

There are no specific timings - just go with the flow of the activity. Give time for all the children to hear the changes in sounds as the storm gets louder or quieter.