Intro to Drums and Percussion

Suggest materials to have at home for practice: Practice Pad and Drum Sticks

Any practice pad and pair of stick would be appropriate—these are just suggestions.

Weeks 1-5

- Learning the word rhythm by using everyday examples
- Learning to use syllables from speech to dictate rhythms
- Learning to use rhythms in different musical meters (2/4, 3/4, 4/4)
- Learning note names of different durations (quarter, eighth and sixteenth notes)
- Learning to distinguish right and left hands
- Learning to play rhythmic patterns on hand drums using different techniques

Weeks 6-10

- Learning triplets as a rhythmic duration
- Continue learning different rhythms in various meters including 6/8
- Learning basic patterns on a variety of instruments (i.e. bongos, congas, etc)
- Learning to play individual patterns in a group

Weeks 11-16

- Learning the concept of rests within musical phrases
- Learning the concept of song structure and phrase lengths
- Learning rhythms from various styles of music to play as a group
- Continue learning techniques on various instruments of the percussion family