The Math in Music

In the Beavers, music and movement sessions are focused on the usage of mathematical intelligence and awareness by pattern recognition through singing games, folk dance, song-tales, echo songs, tap, and clap. The children also explore patterns by playing them on non-pitched percussion instruments, a Soprano Recorder and pitched barred instruments. As part of their exploration of rhythm, the children learn to recognize and perform rhythm patterns of notes and rests using aural syllables. The familiar chant of ta-ta-ti-ti-ta is a rhythm activity that the children are taught to use to express notation. Ta-ta-ti-ta stands for quarter note, quarter note, eighth note, eighth note, quarter note. During music time, the Beavers also clap, skip, or tap the rhythms that they’ve learned. They do this also by identifying rhythm patterns in several of their favorite children stories, as shown below, allowing for more engaging music and movement activities.