



# • Rhythm of Food •

The day **takadimi** became **tortellini**





# Lesson Goal

In this lesson, you will create your own rhythm language to match basic note values.

A food category will give you lots of options, but you can choose another category if you want.

Let's get started!

# Words have rhythm!



**ta (quarter note)**

1 syllable

1 sound

1 beat



**tadi (eighth notes)**

2 syllables

2 sounds

1 beat

When we say “ta” or “tadi,” we match the number of syllables to the number of sounds in the rhythm.

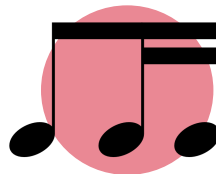


**takadimi (sixteenth notes)**

4 syllables

4 sounds

1 beat



**ta-dimi (8th/16ths)**

3 syllables

3 sounds

1 beat



**taka-di (16th/8ths)**

3 syllables

3 sounds

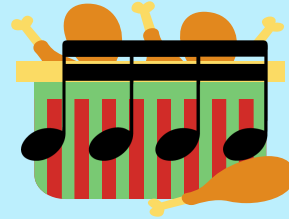
1 beat

# The Rhythm of Fast Food

Instead of the usual “takadimi” rhythm syllables, I’ve used words related to fast food to go with each rhythm.



FRIES



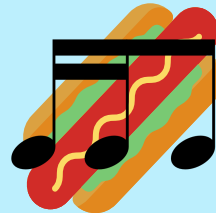
CHICKEN NUGGETS



MILKSHAKE



HAMBURGER



CHILI DOG

# Your turn!

**Select a category.** Use one of these--or come up with your own! You can be really creative here. 😊

Fruits

Vegetables

Pizza toppings

Amusement park food

Ice cream flavors

Candy

Starbucks drinks



Animals

Sports teams

Colors

Flowers

Celebrities


Musical instruments

# Helpful Hints

**Brainstorm** words related to your category and divide them into lists by number of syllables.

Tip  
#1

**Notice the stress pattern of your words.** Words that begin with an unstressed syllable generally don't work well for this activity. Use words that have a stressed first syllable.

**Example:** I need a 3-syllable word for . My category is fruit, so I write down *banana*. Where is the stress in the word ba-na-na? It's on the second syllable. We don't say *BAnana*, so a better choice would be *STRAWberry*.

\*The rhythm for banana is



Tip  
#2

**Notice the difference between the two rhythms with 3 syllables.**

Clap as you say the practice words to hear and feel difference.



long short-short  
*hamburger*  
*strawberry*



short-short long  
*chili dog*  
*coconut*

# Printable Worksheet

Please send your completed work to  
[leah.inger@k12.dc.gov](mailto:leah.inger@k12.dc.gov).

The Rhythm of \_\_\_\_\_  
(your category)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## WORD BRAINSTORM

1 syllable	2 syllables	3 syllables	4 syllables
