



Musical notation for the song 'Okina Taiko' in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The melody is written on three staves. The lyrics are: O - kin - a taik - o don, don, chis - an - a taik - o ton, ton, ton, o - kin - a taik - o chis - an - a taik - o don, don, ton, ton, ton, don, don, ton, ton, ton.

Chord progressions are indicated above the notes: D, A<sup>7</sup>, D, A<sup>7</sup>, D.

**Origin** Japan. Taiko = drum. Okina = big. Chisana = little.

**Source** Songs & Chants from a Multicultural Playground by Chris Okunbor.

**Suggestions**

- ★ Find a big drum (Okina Taiko) with a low sound & a smaller drum with a higher sound . Let the children listen & compare the two sounds.
- ★ While the children are becoming familiar with the words have them join in on the don, don, ton, ton, ton. Choose body percussion to fit these words e.g. patsch knees on don, clap hands on ton.
- ★ The teacher could use the big drum and little drum, as the children continue with body percussion. Then let the children take turns playing the drums.

**Extensions**

- ★ Leave out the words and have the drums play a solo on their part.
- ★ Clap the rhythm of the words on okina taiko, chisana taiko. Try having the drums play this rhythm while the children clap on don, don, ton, ton, ton.
- ★ Create a movement to go with okina taiko and chisana taiko. Use this to create a dance.