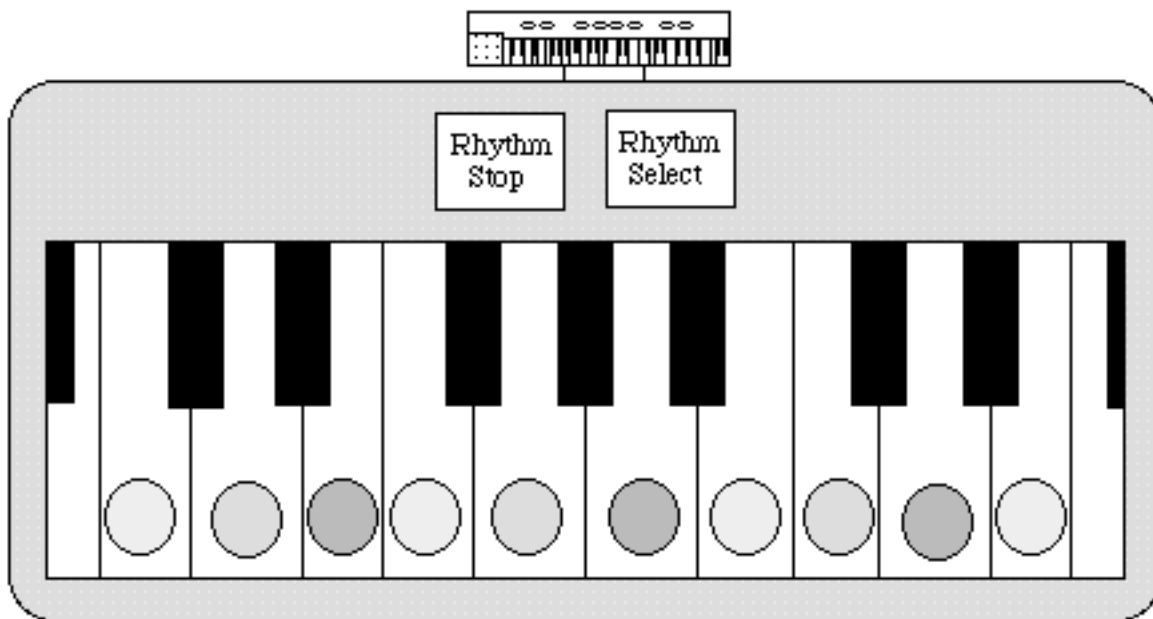


# ArtExpress Family News

## The Music Mat



Dear Families:

Today your child made music with a large, floor Music Mat. It is attached to a small keyboard by hidden wires and switches. The Music Mat looks like the one used in the movie *BIG*. It looks like a piano or keyboard. When your child walks, crawls, pats, rolls on it, or moves a wheelchair over it, the music is activated by the hidden switches, and musical notes are heard. Children can make music by themselves or with their friends and classmates. Anyone who can activate a switch can create and play music using the Music Mat.

Music is very important in everyone's lives every day—as we work, study, play, or ride in a car. Many children learn through remembering the melodies of songs and the rhythms that they hear.

Encourage your child to create his or her own songs. Try singing favorite songs or playing music as you and your child play together.