This workshop allows students to make music by assembling and editing instrumental, sound effect, beat and spoken word samples together to form a composition. We hope they will:

1. consider issues of composition, musicianship, and improvisation in modern music;
2. build their own sampled music (without needing to have technical musical skill); and
3. understand how mathematical concepts apply to composition and music.

Participants will use a mixing board created by the team. They will plug in sensors to adjust and mix the music, producing songs composed of sound samples. All the action is physical, not on the computer. The students will learn that it is the content and creative ideas that drive self-expression.

For more information, or to contact your instructors from a previous workshop, email us at DropScience@brillomag.net.

The Droppin' Science Team: Virginia Eubanks, Tristan Jehan, Maddy Kadish, Egon Pasztor, Elisabeth Sylvan, Catherine Vaucelle
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Welcome to the Droppin' Science Workshop!
This workshop will allow you to make music by assembling and editing instrumental, sound effect, beat, bass and spoken word samples together to form one composition and perform it for their friends.

Part I: Introductions
1. What is sampled music? (10 minutes)
2. Meet the mixer, how it works... (10 minutes)
3. Experiment with the system. (20 minutes)

Part II: Composition
3. A Little Lesson: Beats, Measures & Composition (5 minutes)
4. Sketch your composition. (20 minutes)
5. Practice your composition. (20 minutes)
6. Recording Session (5 minutes)

Part III: Performance
7. Perform for each other/Record performances (30 minutes)
8. Evaluation: What is sampled music, Part II? Did the tools enable or constrain you? How about the content? How can we make this better? (20 minutes)
9. Wrap-Up: Places to go for more information and to continue this kind of work. (10 minutes)

Resources for Further Experimentation

Breakbeat & Electronic Music Resources
120 Years of Electronic Music http://www.obsolete.com/120_years/
Breakbeat Lounge http://breakbeatlounge.ch
The Roots of Electronica http://www.plato.nl/e-primer/theroots.htm

Music & Math
The Algebra Project, Boston (see African Drums & Ratios) http://www.algebra.org

Personalities
DJ Spooky, That Subliminal Kid http://www.djspooky.com
DJ M Singe (Soundlab Studios) http://www.soundlab.org

Tools
Napster - A Great place to download content for sampling! http://www.napster.com
Harmony Central - Resource for electronic music hardware & software, including good reviews for newbies http://www.harmony-central.com
Audio editing shareware: Cakewalk Pro Audio (PC), Cool Edit (PC), sonicWORX Artist Basic (Mac), Sound Edit Pro (Mac), Sound Effects (Mac), Soundforge (PC)

For more information, see the workshop website at http://www.brillomag.net/DS/