



resident life

Making Learning Fun

Resident Services Coordinator **Tonya Speller** recently enlisted the help of music teacher **John Jenkins** and Portsmouth, Virginia's **Woodrow Wilson High School** drumline to teach children in **Cross Creek Apartments'** after-school program about rhythm and music. Before the lesson even started, many of the children were hopping up and down with excitement as they heard the sound of cymbals and drums coming from the parking lot. The afternoon lesson consisted of demonstrations of different percussion instruments, as well as a chance for the children to try them out.



Above: A Cross Creek resident is amazed by how heavy...and loud...the cymbals are!

This summer, **The Woods at Yorktown AmeriCorps member Cheryl Guardia** decided that Beijing wasn't the only place where the Olympic Games could be held, so she brought the Olympics right to Yorktown, Virginia! As part of a service learning project designed to teach children in the after-school program about diversity, each child selected a country to research, painted the country's flag, and then participated in various games and activities representing their chosen country. **The Yorktown Olympics** included an Opening Ceremony with a torch lighting and flag parade, three-on-three basketball, relay races, Frisbee tosses, and many more events. At the end of the day, not only were

the resident children eager to take part in the special day, but parents and other CHP employees joined in the fun.

Said Guardia, "It was really neat to see the kids get excited about learning and enthusiastic about all of their hard work; even after the events, they are still talking about their countries."



Left: Children at the Woods at Yorktown hold their very own Olympics.