Mozart Mash-Up

Recommended year group: Year 6   **Theme focus:** Music   **Suggested term:** Spring

Theme introduction

Mozart Mash-Up is a theme focused on learning about different musical genres that have existed and changed over time. Learning in this theme is focused on music but also includes PSHE, History and Design and Technology. In Mozart Mash-Up, we look at key figures who influenced the music world. These include Mozart, Beethoven, jazz musicians such as Louis Armstrong and synthesizer musicians including Jean-Michel Jarre and Vangelis. Pupils will learn how to create their own musical compositions and improvise others. They will learn how to write their own musical scores and create chords sequences.

Driving Question
Can music ever be too old to be popular?

Switch on Science Unit
Classifying living things

Switch on Computing Unit
We are computational thinkers

Linked reading texts
Mozart: The Boy Who Changed the World with His Music by Marcus Weeks

Why Beethoven Threw the Stew: And Lots More Stories About the Lives of Great Composers by Steven Isserlis CBE

English outcomes

Biography
Biography of a famous musician to be shared and put into a class book of biographies

Non-chronological report
A non-chronological report of musical genres (e.g., jazz, rock and roll, pop, etc.) to be shared with parents

Curriculum coverage

Music – Appreciate and understand, rhythm, notation, improvise and compose, singing

Design and Technology – Design criteria, representing design ideas

PSHE – Living in the wider world

History – Chronology

Excite

Pupils to engage in a game of 'Guess the genre'.

Have musical genres situated around the room. Pupils listen to a piece of music and decide which genre they think it is. They collect points for each correct guess. The winner is the pupil with the most amounts of points and is crowned the Musical Genre Wizard.

Some examples could be rock, pop, blues, swing, classical, synthesizer, jazz, Motown, ska, sea shanty, rap.

Explore

There are fourteen Explore sessions:

Explore 1: Gregorian chant
Explore 2: Chronology of composers
Explore 3: 1, 2, 3, 4: what are we counting for?
Explore 4: Scale tales
Explore 5: Harmonious!
Explore 6: Instrumental
Explore 7: Young Mozart

Explore 8: Mozart and the art of perfection
Explore 9: Musical careers
Explore 10: Music after Mozart
Explore 11: United music
Explore 12: Jazz hall of fame
Explore 13: Synthesizer music
Explore 14: Mozart mash-up!

Theme essential vocabulary:

chant, chord, composer, glissando, pitch, pulse, rhythm, melody, scale, synthesizer

Essential knowledge/concepts

1. Gregorian chants have a rhythm based on the words that are sung.
2. Music has been listened to for centuries.
3. Pulse is the same as a steady beat.
4. Pitch is how high or low a sound is.
5. Music is written on a musical stave which consists of five lines.
6. Music can be based on both major and minor scales.
7. A triad chord is made up of three notes.
8. A glissando is a sliding scale of notes.
9. Mozart composed music during the classical era (1750–1820).
10. Composers from the Romantic era include Chopin, Mendelssohn and Verdi.
11. Traditional music is global and includes music such as gamelan, samba and tango.
12. Jazz originated in New Orleans in the early 1900s.
13. Key jazz artists include Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, Miles Davis, Jamie Cullum and Katie Melua.
14. Synthesizer music is another form of electronic music where a machine makes the sounds.
15. Key synthesizer artists include Jean Michel-Jarre, Vangelis, Eurythmics and Duran Duran.

Excel

The key assessment outcomes of this unit are:

Explore 3: 1, 2, 3, 4: what are we counting for?: Compose a rhythmic cycle using plastic percussion.

Explore 4: Scale tales: Improvise and notate a melody using a major scale.

Explore 8: Mozart and the art of perfection: Arrange a Mozart medley in the style of an a cappella.

Explore 14: Mozart mash-up!: Compose and perform a mash-up song.

Exhibit

Pupils to perform a range of the improvisations and compositions that they have learnt over the course of the theme. This must include their mash-up from the end of the theme.

Possible wider experiences:

Go to a live music concert

Hear a live orchestra play

Have go at playing a range of different musical instruments

Sing a song (individually, as a pair or group) and perform it to an audience

Flipped learning opportunities

1. Listen to music written by classical composers, e.g., Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn, Elgar.
2. Research some of the famous composers of the past, e.g., Beethoven, Mozart, Holst.
3. Explore and listen to various genres of music e.g., jazz, blues, rock and roll, pop.

Family learning suggestion

Listen to a variety of music from different decades. Discuss which family members like which style of music and why.

Or

Make a model thumb piano (many different sets of instructions can be found on the Internet).

Cultural awareness

Key piece of music

'Symphony No. 5' by Beethoven

Key piece of art

'Violinist at the Window' – Henri Matisse, 1918

Key poem

'Music' by Walter de la Mare

Mozart Mash-Up © 2022 Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust