

Year 5 – Music Skills

Knowledge Organiser – Classroom Jazz

Key Skills and Knowledge

Prior Learning:

Year 1: Voice preparation before singing.

Year 2: Different music genre understanding.

Year 3: Glockenspiel playing.

In this unit children will:

- The children will learn and/or build on their knowledge and understanding about how swing and jazz music is created.
- They will be listening to and discussing different pieces of jazz and swing music.
- They will be listening to pieces such as The Three Note Bossa by Ian Gray and Desafinado by Stan Getz.
- The children will be recapping glockenspiel skills and following jazz and swing rhythms as well as creating their own.
- They will be learning about the world of jazz and different jazz artists lives and instruments including the saxophone.

Jazz

Key Knowledge

Why is it important to understand where different music comes from?

In this unit, the children will be following 'classroom jazz' and looking at jazz and swing music in detail. They will be listening to, appraising and creating their own jazz and swing music using their voices and playing on the glockenspiel.

Musical Notes and Symbols	
	Crotchet A crotchet represents one beat in a piece of music.
	Semibreve A semibreve is a whole note that represents 4 crotchet beats. It takes up an entire measure of 4/4 (4 beats in a bar) time.
	Treble Clef The treble clef is a symbol that is placed on every line of a piece of music to show the notes which will be sung or played by instruments that can achieve higher notes.
	Sharp A sharp raises a note in pitch by a half.
	Flat A flat lowers a note in pitch by a half.
	Minim A minim represents 2 beats. It is a longer note than the crotchet. A minim note is the equivalent of 2 crotchets.

- Jazz is a music genre that originated in the African American communities of New Orleans.
- It developed from the late 19th century to the early 20th century from the roots and blues music of the time.
- Swing is form of jazz music which became popular in the 1930's and 1940's.
- Artists such as Louis Armstrong and Miles Davis are considered some of the biggest jazz and swing artists.
- Louis Armstrong's career lasted over five decades and he sang the popular song What a Wonderful World. He was a jazz trumpeter.
- Typical jazz instruments include drums, guitar, piano, saxophone, trumpet, clarinet, trombone and the double bass.
- Jazz is unique as some songs are based on improvisation.
- The United Nations named April 30th as the official International Jazz Day.

Musicians/Composers

Key Questions



Louis Armstrong

Louis Armstrong was an American trumpeter and vocalist who was among the most influential figures in jazz. His career spanned five decades and different eras in the history of jazz. Armstrong was born and raised in New Orleans.

- Why was Louis Armstrong so famous?
- How did swing and jazz music become so popular?
- What is the most played jazz song?
- Who else was a famous jazz artist?
- Are there any British jazz singers?

Vocabulary

Jazz music	is a unique blend of many styles of music including gospel music, brass bands, African music, blues, and Spanish music.
Improvisation	the art of creating your own, usually on the spot.
Louis Armstrong	one of the most popular jazz and swing musicians. He famously played the trumpet.
Artists	the performers and song writers.
Roots and Blues	the original origins of jazz and swing music.
Swing music	is a form of jazz music which helped people during the Great Depression of 1929-1939.