



Be the best that we can be.

EBJ Knowledge Organiser Music Year 6

Spring 2 Theme and Variations (Pop Art)

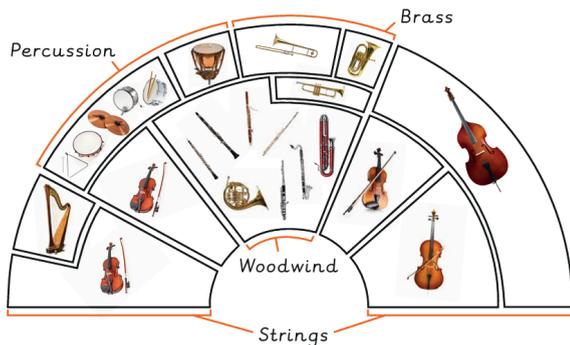


Curriculum Overview

In this unit, pupils will develop their performance skills by confidently playing and copying rhythms both individually and in groups, maintaining a steady pulse through body percussion and singing with control. They will learn to identify the sounds of different instruments, discuss their characteristics, and match suitable instruments to specific art pieces. Pupils will recall the names of instruments within each section of the orchestra and accurately name, draw, and perform rhythms. They will explore musical variation, showing clear differences in their work, and demonstrate creativity by producing a refined musical outcome.

Orchestra

Orchestra A group of instruments that play together.



- Strings** - Instruments that are played by plucking or bowing strings.
- Woodwind** - Instruments that make sound by blowing air through a reed or small mouthpiece.
- Brass** - Instruments that are made of metal and the sound is made by blowing air through a cup-shaped mouthpiece.
- Percussion** - Instruments that are played by striking, beating or shaking the instrument.



Key Vocabulary

Pop Art

An art movement from the 1950s where artists focused on common objects (comic books, tins of soup, teacups) and showed them in bold, bright colours.



- Pulse** Pulse is a steady beat - the heartbeat of the music.
- Notation** Written symbols to represent music.
- Diaphragm** A dome shaped muscle beneath our lungs, which we use to control our breath when singing.
- Melody** Notes of different pitches played in a sequence in order to create a tune.
- Phrase** A short musical passage that makes sense on its own.
- Rhythm** The pattern of long and short notes in music.
- 3/4 time** Commonly called 'waltz time' and only has 3 beats per bar.
- 4/4 time** Known as 'common time' and has 4 beats per bar.

Pop Art and Music

Pop art and music are closely linked because both celebrate popular culture and everyday life. Pop artists used bold colours, repeated images and familiar objects (like comic strips or celebrities) to reflect the world around them, while pop music was doing the same through catchy melodies and relatable themes. Together, they challenged traditional ideas about what "serious" art or music should be, making creativity feel more accessible and exciting for everyone. This connection helped shape a vibrant cultural movement that still influences modern art, design and music today.

Musical Form: Theme and Variations

Theme and variations is a common musical structure, especially in classical music. The structure features a theme at the start of the piece, then once the theme has been played, the composer repeats it but with some form of variation. The theme is then played again but this time with a further variation.

Kodaly Rhythm Names

TA = Crotchet Ti-Ti = Quaver SH = Crotchet rest TWO = Minim

TIKI - TIKI TI - TIKI TIKI - TI