Music Long-Term Map

Units by term · Years 3 to 6

Birchwood Junior School

Our music strands

- Musical community
- Musical celebration
- Musical creativity
- Musical foundations
- Music appreciation

	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Whole-class instrumental unit
Year 3	**Ballads** Learning what ballads are, how to identify their features and how to convey different emotions when performing… Selecting vocabulary to describe a story, before turning it into lyrics following the structure of a traditional ballad. **Key inspiration:** David Bowie	**Pentatonic melodies and composition** Theme: Chinese New Year Using the story of Chinese New Year as a stimulus: revising key musical terminology, playing and creating pentatonic melodies, composing a piece of music in a group using layered melodies and performing a finished piece. **Key inspiration:** The story of the Chinese New Year	**Traditional instruments and improvisation** Theme: India An introduction to traditional Indian music. Learning about the rag and tal, listening to a range of examples of Indian music, identifying traditional instruments and creating improvisations and performing. **Key inspiration:** Indian culture and Bollywood	**South Africa** Building up to a performance of 'Put on your gumboots' using voices, untuned and tuned percussion. **Key inspiration:** South African culture
Year 4	**Body and tuned percussion** Theme: Rainforests Exploring the rainforest through music whilst being introduced to new musical terms. Using a mixture of body percussion and tuned percussion instruments to create rhythms of the rainforest, layer by layer. **Key inspiration:** Amazon Rainforest	**Changes in pitch, tempo and dynamic** Theme: Rivers Linking to geography learning, pupils represent different stages of the river through vocal and percussive ostinatos, culminating in a final group performance. **Key inspiration:** Features of a river	**Adapting and transposing motifs** Theme: Romans Drawing upon their understanding of repeating patterns in music, pupils are introduced to the concept of motifs and adapt and transpose motifs and perform them to their peers. **Key inspiration:** Roman culture	**South America** Building up to a mini carnival performance using the piece 'Vamos let's go' using voice, dance, tuned and untuned percussion. **Key inspiration:** South American culture
Year 5	**Composition notation** Theme: Ancient Egypt Identifying the pitch and rhythm of written notes and experimenting with notating their compositions in different ways to help develop their understanding of staff notation. **Key inspiration:** Use of hieroglyphics in Ancient Egyptian culture	**South and West Africa** Learning 'Shosholoza', a traditional South African song, playing the accompanying chords using tuned percussion and incorporating dance. **Key inspiration:** Bantu People and their culture	**Composition to represent the festival of colour** Theme: Holi Festival Exploring the associations between music, sounds and colour, composing and, as a class, performing their own musical composition to represent Holi. **Key inspiration:** Hindu festival of Holi	**Indonesia** Building up to Gamelan inspired performance of 'Blue Skies' using untuned and tuned percussion. **Key inspiration:** Indonesian culture
Year 6	**Advanced rhythms** Exploring rhythmic patterns in order to build a sense of pulse and using this understanding to create a composition. **Key inspiration:** Zoltán Kodály	**Dynamics, pitch and texture** Appraising the work of Mendelssohn and further developing the skills of improvisation and composition. **Key inspiration:** Felix Mendelssohn	**Writing a leavers' song** Creating their own leavers' song personal to their experiences as a class; listening to and critiquing well-known songs and writing their own lyrics. **Key inspiration:** Pop artists such as Take That, S Club 7	**North America** Building to a Minimalist and Electronic Dance Music fusion performance of 'Interlocking patterns' using voices and tuned percussion. **Key inspiration:** North American culture