



# Music

## 13<sup>th</sup> November

Today we will be thinking about a piece of music that you like and explaining why.

# Today's Learning

Today we are going to be talking about music and songs.

We will think about the music we like and why we like it.

Watch the BBC Bitesize Music Club video at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zk86qfr/articles/z8x796f>



# Musical Features

Music is made of lots of different elements that make up how it sounds.

These features can be described using key words like **loud and quiet, high and low, fast and slow, long and short.**

We can use these words and many more to describe the **elements** of a piece of music.



# Describing Music

When we are talking about music, we need to think about lots of things:

**The vocal line:** How many singers are there? Is it just one? Or two? Or maybe a group? Are they male or female?

**What instruments are there?** What type of ensemble is it? (A rock band, a brass ensemble, a piano and violin?) Do any instruments play a solo?

**The lyrics:** Are there lyrics (words)? Is there a hook (a repeated lyrics line)? Do the lyrics rhyme?

**The texture** - Is the texture of the music thick (many instruments and singers performing at once), thin (only a few instruments and singers) or in between? Are there many layers of sound? Are there many voices singing? Are there many instruments playing? Does the texture stay the same throughout?



**The tempo** - Is the music fast, slow or in between? Does the tempo change throughout the piece? Does the music speed up or slow down?

**The dynamics** - Is the music loud, quiet or in between? Are the dynamics the same throughout the piece or do they vary?

**The arrangement** - Is the piece divided into sections? What are the differences between sections? Which voices or instruments sing and play in each section? Do sections repeat?



# MUSICAL ELEMENTS

A number of elements affect how a piece of music is played and sounds.

<b>TIMBRE / TONE COLOUR</b>  Timbre (or tone colour) is the term used to describe the particular sound quality of an instrument or voice.	<b>PITCH</b>  Pitch is how high or low a note sounds.
<b>TEXTURE</b>  The effect of melodies and harmonies together. A lot of sounds playing close together is a thick texture.	<b>DYNAMICS</b>  Dynamics are how loud or quiet a piece of music is played.
<b>TEMPO</b>  The tempo of a piece of music is how fast or slow it is played.	<b>DURATION</b>  Duration is how long or short a note is.
<b>STRUCTURE</b>  Structure is the overall plan of a piece of music.	<b>SILENCE</b>  Silence (the gaps, rests and breaks) is also part of a piece of music.



# Your Task

Pick any song you like and listen to it. What do you like about it?

Is it fast or slow? Does it have loud sections, quiet sections or both? What instruments are being used? Is there a singer? What is the mood of the piece - how does it make you feel? Does the piece sound like it's in a particular style?

Talk to your grown up about the song you have chosen.



Write a few sentences to explain your ideas using some of the key words from our lesson.



Mrs Riley likes, “You’ve got a friend in me” from Toy Story

I like it because it has a catchy melody and memorable chorus.

It is has a gentle and swaying rhythm.

The drummer using brushes instead of sticks gives it a relaxed, jazzy feel.

I’d love to know all about your favourite songs, so please e-mail me at:

[year2@st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:year2@st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

