

MUSIC MAESTRO PRIMARY

UNIT 4.2 – AUTUMN TERM 2 – ISLAND BEATS

UNIT OVERVIEW

In this unit of work, pupils will study the music of the Caribbean. They will learn how to recognise Calypso and Reggae music based on the musical features they can hear. Pupils will discover the steel drums and learn about how they are made. They will continue to develop their singing skills, this time exploring Caribbean songs with a wider vocal range.

LINKS TO PRIOR LEARNING

Pupils have engaged in singing since Y1 . They have encountered unison singing and worked on pitch (high/low) and tempo (fast/slow). They may remember crescendo and decrescendo from the Y2 singing unit (2.5), although it was not an expectation that they remember the Italian terms. They have sung either call and response songs, or in unison, and rounds with multiple parts.

ESSENTIAL LEARNING SUMMARY

Lesson	Learning Intention/Activity	What will be known and remembered	Revisited vocabulary	New vocabulary
1	<p>RECAP</p> <p>Ask the children to put together a list as a class of the different types of songs they have sung before in their music lessons. They might come up with rounds, call and response and give specific songs etc.</p> <p>LEARN</p> <p>Explain to pupils that Calypso music is a style of music originating from the Caribbean islands of Trinidad and Tobago. It often has a strong beat that makes you want to dance, and the words (called lyrics) usually tell a story or share a message—sometimes in a funny or clever way!</p> <p>Watch and listen to the ‘Mary Ann Calypso’. Which instruments can you see and hear? Steel drums, drum kit, bongos/congos, cow bell, bass guitar, cymbals etc.</p> <p>How is the performer playing the steel drums? Why do you think each different area of the drum has a different pitch?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Know the main features of the Calypso style, including its origins ✓ Listen to and name instruments associated with the calypso style ✓ Understand how a steel drum is made 		<p>Calypso</p> <p>Steel drum</p> <p>Bongo</p> <p>Congo</p> <p>Cow Bell</p>

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	<p>Explain to the children that the steel drum originates from Trinidad and Tobago. Locate Trinidad and Tobago using this map. Then ask them to read the Steel Drums information sheet and answer the questions on the second page.</p> <p>REVIEW What 5 facts about Calypso would you teach someone?</p>			
2	<p>RECAP Recap the main features of Calypso. What can the children remember from the last lesson?</p> <p>LEARN Explain to the children that Harry Belafonte was one of several famous Calypso performers in the 1950s and 1960s.</p> <p>Watch this performance of the Banana Boat Song, by Harry Belafonte. Think about which elements of Calypso it includes.</p> <p>Now learn to sing the Banana Boat Song using this rehearsal track.</p> <p>When secure, use some confident singers to lead the call (black notes), with others singing the response (purple notes). Which parts can be sung 'piano'? Which parts can be sung 'forte'?</p> <p>REVIEW What do the words 'piano' and 'forte' mean and which language are they from?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sing songs with a wide musical range ✓ Use the dynamics of 'forte' and 'piano' when performing 	<p>Calypso Steel drum Bongo Congo Cow Bell Call and response Piano Forte</p>	<p>Piano Forte</p>
3	<p>RECAP Sing the Banana Boat Song using this rehearsal track. Select singers to lead.</p> <p>LEARN Explain that Reggae music is another type of Caribbean music, this time one that originates from Jamaica. It has a slow, steady beat that makes you want</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sing songs with a wide musical range ✓ Use the dynamics of 'forte' and 'piano' when performing 	<p>Calypso Steel drum Bongo Congo Cow Bell Call and response</p>	<p>Reggae Off-beat Syncopation</p>

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	<p>to sway or dance. The rhythm often goes 'off the beat,' which gives Reggae its special sound. This is called 'syncopation' and we will learn more about this later in the lesson.</p> <p>Locate Jamaica on a map. See where it is in relation to Trinidad and Tobago. Explain to the children that Reggae songs often talk about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace and love • Standing up for what's right • Life in Jamaica <p>Look at the lyrics on this sheet, from a Reggae piece called Three Little Birds and discuss how the words talk about not worrying too much about life. Play 'Three little birds', by Bob Marley. What instruments can you hear? (Drums, mixed percussion, keyboard, bass guitar, trumpets etc)</p> <p>Can the children hear that the 2nd and 4th beats of each bar are stronger than the 1st and 3rd?</p> <p>Play the beginning of the track again and see if you can count the beats and hear the 'syncopation' (clap the off-beats 2 and 4).</p> <p>Use riff video to clap the off-beats on counts 2 and 4 and feel the syncopation of the rhythm in these 4 different section of reggae music.</p> <p>Explain that the Reggae style has also been used and developed in Britain over the last 50 or 60 years ago. Listen to 'House of Fun' by Madness, written in the 1980s. Can you hear the off-beat again? Can you hear the trumpets and keyboard too? This song is also about life, but this time in England, rather than Jamaica.</p> <p>Listen to 'Side to side' by Ariana Grande (2016). Again, see if you can hear and respond to the reggae style.</p> <p>REVIEW</p> <p>Explain to a partner what the main features of Reggae music are. Do you like the Reggae style? What in particular do you like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Know the main features of the Reggae style, including its origins ✓ Listen to and name instruments associated with the Reggae style 	Piano Forte	
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4	<p>Recap Sing the Banana Boat Song using this rehearsal track. Select singers to lead.</p> <p>LEARN Write a brief fact file or information poster on the range of styles of Caribbean music covered in the unit of work. These could be published and displayed if done to a high standard. Include a glossary in your work. You could use this template if helpful for some pupils.</p> <p>REVIEW Could you perform The Banana Boat song to your parents at the end of the school day?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Know the main features of the Calypso style, including its origins ✓ Know the main features of the Reggae style, including its origins 	<p>Calypso</p> <p>Steel drum</p> <p>Bongo</p> <p>Congo</p> <p>Cow Bell</p> <p>Call and response</p> <p>Piano</p> <p>Forte</p> <p>Reggae</p> <p>Off-beat</p> <p>Syncopation</p>	
5	<p>ASSESSMENT:</p> <p>Know the main features of the Calypso style, including its origins</p> <p>Know the main features of the Reggae style, including its origins</p> <p>Clap and maintain a syncopated beat</p>	<p>Exceeded</p>	<p>Secured</p>	<p>Below</p>
<p>What does this assessment information tell me about the impact of the curriculum?</p> <p>What do I need to do next as a result?</p>				

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UNIT GLOSSARY

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Calypso	A Caribbean musical style, usually with a witty story, often played by steel drums
Steel drum	A Caribbean instrument, often made from old steel barrels
Bongo	A pair of small round drums attached together
Conga	Tall, narrow drum that stands on the floor or are held between the knees
Cow Bell	A metal percussion instrument, which is hit with a stick or beater
Call and response	Two differing musical phrases, the second of which 'answers' the first
Piano	The Italian term meaning 'soft'
Forte	The Italian term meaning 'loud'
Reggae	A Caribbean music style originating from Jamaica. It has a rhythmic emphasis on the off-beat (beats 2 and 4)
Off-beat	Beats 2 and 4 of a 4-beat bar
Syncopation	The art of playing the off-beats