



Music Progression of Skills and Knowledge – Year 6

Musical Activities	Knowledge	Skills
Listen and Appraise	• To know five songs from memory, who sang or wrote them, when they	To identify and move to the pulse with ease.
	were written and why?	 To think about the message of songs.
	 To know the style of the songs and to name other songs from the 	 To compare two songs in the same style, talking
	Units in those styles.	about what stands out musically in each of them,
	 To choose three or four other songs and be able to talk about: 	their similarities and differences.
	O The style indicators of the songs (musical characteristics that	 Listen carefully and respectfully to other people's
	give the songs their style)	thoughts about the music.
	O The lyrics: what the songs are about	 Use musical words when talking about the songs.
	O Any musical dimensions featured in the songs and where they	 To talk about the musical dimensions working
	are used (texture, dynamics, tempo, rhythm, pitch and timbre)	together in the Unit songs.
	O Identify the structure of the songs (intro, verse, chorus etc.)	 Talk about the music and how it makes you feel,
	O Name some of the instruments used in the songs	using musical language to describe the music.
	O The historical context of the songs. What else was going on at	
	this time, musically and historically?	
	O Know and talk about that fact that we each have a musical identity	
Games and Warm-up	Know and be able to talk about:	Using the Warm up Games tracks provided, complete
	 How pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, texture and structure 	the Bronze, Silver and Gold Challenges. Children will
	work together and how they connect in a song	complete the following in relation to the main song,
	How to keep the internal pulse	using three notes:
	Musical Leadership: creating musical ideas for the group to copy or	
	respond to	
Singing	 To know and confidently sing five songs and their parts from memory, 	 To sing in unison and to sing backing vocals.
	and to sing them with a strong internal pulse.	 To demonstrate a good singing posture.
	 To know about the style of the songs so you can represent the feeling 	 To follow a leader when singing.
	and context to your audience	 To experience rapping and solo singing.
	■ To choose a song and be able to talk about:	• To listen to each other and be aware of how you fit
	o Its main features	into the group.
	O Singing in unison, the solo, lead vocal, backing vocals or rapping	 To sing with awareness of being 'in tune'.
	 To know what the song is about and the meaning of the lyrics 	
	 To know and explain the importance of warming up your voice 	

Playing Instruments	To know and be able to talk about: • Different ways of writing music down — e.g. staff notation, symbols • The notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B + C on the treble stave • The instruments they might play or be played in a band or orchestra or by their friends	 Play a musical instrument with the correct technique within the context of the Unit song. Select and learn an instrumental part that matches their musical challenge, using one of the differentiated parts – a one-note, simple or medium part or the melody of the song from memory or using notation. To rehearse and perform their part within the context of the Unit song. To listen to and follow musical instructions from a leader. To lead a rehearsal session.
Improvisation	To know and be able to talk about improvisation: Improvisation is making up your own tunes on the spot When someone improvises, they make up their own tune that has never been heard before. It is not written down and belongs to them. To know that using one, two or three notes confidently is better than using five To know that if you improvise using the notes you are given, you cannot make a mistake To know that you can use some of the riffs and licks you have learnt in the Challenges in your improvisations To know three well-known improvising musicians	Improvise using instruments in the context of the song they are learning to perform. Using the improvisation tracks provided, children will complete the Bronze, Silver or Gold Challenges
Composition	To know and be able to talk about: • A composition: music that is created by you and kept in some way. It's like writing a story. It can be played or performed again to your friends. • A composition has pulse, rhythm and pitch that work together and are shaped by tempo, dynamics, texture and structure • Notation: recognise the connection between sound and symbol	 Create simple melodies using up to five different notes and simple rhythms that work musically with the style of the Unit song. Explain the keynote or home note and the structure of the melody. Listen to and reflect upon the developing composition and make musical decisions about how the melody connects with the song.

		 Record the composition in any way appropriate that recognises the connection between sound and symbol (e.g. graphic/pictorial notation).
Performance	To know and be able to talk about: • Performing is sharing music with an audience with belief • A performance doesn't have to be a drama! It can be to one person or to each other • Everything that will be performed must be planned and learned • You must sing or rap the words clearly and play with confidence • A performance can be a special occasion and involve an audience including of people you don't know • It is planned and different for each occasion • A performance involves communicating ideas, thoughts and feelings about the song/music	 To choose what to perform and create a programme. To communicate the meaning of the words and clearly articulate them. To talk about the venue and how to use it to best effect. To record the performance and compare it to a previous performance. To discuss and talk musically about it – "What went well?" and "It would have been even better if?"