



HOME LEARNING

Subject: Music Year 8 Mrs Wright

Time: 50 minutes approximately

TASK 1

Learning Objective:

- To listen to a piece of music and identify as many instruments as you can.

In last week's home-learning we focussed on orchestral instruments, particularly noticing their different timbres (specific sound). I'm sure you will recognise this piece of music instantly but on this occasion I want you to pay strict attention to exactly what you can hear. Try to write down as many instruments as you can. You can play and pause the track as many times as you like.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xqog63KOANc>

TASK 2

Learning Objective(s):

- To listen with attention to detail to music from a different culture.
- To understand why the music sounds different to 'western' music.

This Friday, the 12th February will see the start of Chinese New Year. This year, according to the Chinese Zodiac, it is the year of the Ox. It is thought that people born in the year of the Ox are strong, reliable and calm but they can also be very opinionated.



Click on the link below and simply enjoy listening to the music. How does it make you feel? Perhaps you might like to close your eyes or even make your own movements to the music.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqZbR16Qs1o>

We instantly recognise this music as being Chinese but why?

Perhaps it's the instruments: Chinese instruments have different timbres to the orchestral instruments we have looked at in the last few weeks.

Listen to these three traditional Chinese instruments below, they have very distinct sounds.

Sheng: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qkkA5yWrvww> (You only need to listen to the first minute of this).

Dulcimer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W8I0E1aPD-8>

Erhu: Notice the three ladies playing the Erhu. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4i13laeBZgA>

As we have seen, traditional Chinese instruments sound very different to our ears and this is why we can often recognise Chinese music even though we may not be able to name the instruments.

Another reason why Chinese music sounds different is because of the scale used to compose the music. A Chinese scale usually has 5 notes. Chinese scales are often called pentatonic scales. What does a pentatonic scale sound like? Listen to the clip below to find out. It takes a few moments for the presenter to start explaining pentatonic scales but you will hear that Chinese sound when he does. Listen out for the word 'pentatonic' and notice when he plays just the black keys on the piano.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JneOWGvZW84>

TASK 3

Learning objective(s):

- To be able to write down a melody using a pentatonic scale.

Below is a pentatonic scale starting on the note C.

C D E G A You can see that the note F is not included and neither is B.

Now I am going to number the notes as well.

1 2 3 5 6
C D E G A

If I asked you to play or tell me the note that is represented by the number 2, I hope you would play or tell me it is D. What if I asked you which note was represented by the number 6?

In the exercise below, I'd like you to write the correct notes from the Chinese pentatonic scale underneath the numbers:

1 2 3 5 6 5 3 6 5 3 2 3

1 2 3 5 6 5 3 2 3 2 3 1

If you are lucky enough to have a keyboard at home, why not try to play the notes? If you don't have access to a keyboard, don't worry, as you can play along using this online keyboard.

<https://www.musicca.com/piano>

You should be able to hear that distinct Chinese sound when you play. You could also make some of the notes shorter or longer than the others. See how you get on.

Save your work:

If you are using a computer, open a blank document to do your work (you can use Word or Publisher). Don't forget to SAVE it with your name, year group, the lesson you are doing and the date.
For example: T.Smith Maths 8 April

If you would like us to see or mark your work please email it or send a photo of your completed work to: awright@glebe.bromley.sch.uk

Thank you