



Home Learning Music Activities KS2 Years 3 & 4 - Spring Term – Week 2

NOTE FOR PARENTS/CARERS We hope you and your children enjoy these activities. Dip in and out, try things out, pick and choose what works for you and your children. You don't have to attempt them all! Most of all, have fun together.

We recommend that YouTube videos are reviewed before children access them as, occasionally, inappropriate comments may be posted after we've viewed them.

HELLO MUSIC MAESTROS!

How did you get on with last week's activities? We hope you enjoyed them.

We're sure you love a great story. There's nothing better than snuggling up with a good book! This week we're going to take literacy as our theme. If you're sitting comfortably, let's begin! 😊

Singing

Listen to 'Under the Sea' from the Disney film 'The Little Mermaid'. <https://youtu.be/Fkusy4ylhiY>

Have a go at learning the song. Try performing some body percussion rhythms (claps, finger clicks, stamps, thigh slaps) to bring the song alive. If you'd like some inspiration, take a look at this video and then make up your own version: <https://youtu.be/pV06cJJraU0>

Which colourful creatures in the Hot Crustacean Band play which instruments or sing? Make a list. Which instrument would YOU like to play!?

ART: Try drawing some of your favourite characters from the film.

- Do you know who wrote the original story that the film is based on and what it's called? If not, can you find out? (Answer below)

Have you come across the story 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson? Click here to listen to the story told through rap: <https://youtu.be/mN6NsaSj-SU?list=RDmN6NsaSj-SU> Enjoy the illustrations as you rap along!

CREATIVE WRITING: Have a go at making up a rap of your own that tells a story? Then perform your rap with a backing track. You can find some backing tracks here:

<https://soundcloud.com/freehiphopbeatsforyou>

Listening and Appraising

Many pieces of classical music are based on folktales. Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg wrote music for a play based on the tale of a young boy, Peer Gynt. In the story, Peer Gynt falls in love with a girl but is not allowed to marry her. He runs away into the mountains but is captured by trolls who take him to their King. Peer Gynt tries to escape but is chased by the trolls and runs into the troll King but eventually gets away.



Go to the BBC 10 Pieces website and click on the first video clip to hear Dan Starkey introduce the music: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ten-pieces/KS2-edvard-grieg-in-the-hall-of-the-mountain-king-from-peer-gynt/z7nf3k7>

Now click on the second video clip to hear the BBC National Orchestra of Wales play the piece again. Listen carefully. Find five ways the music helps to tell the story. Think about how Grieg uses things like tempo (speed), dynamics (volume), pitch (high and low) and rhythm (long and short sounds) to bring the story alive.

HINTS: Listen out for musical footsteps and a sneaky tune! How does the music help us imagine the trolls getting nearer and nearer and nearer!

ART: Try drawing the scary troll Mountain King in his underground palace.

We think **'School Song'** from the musical **'Matilda'** is brilliant! It's based on the book by Roald Dahl. In the song, the children sing about the horrors of 'phys ed' (PE) at Crunchem Hall.

Here's a challenge for you! See if you can spot the alphabet hidden in the song. The first time you listen, pause the video at 2 minutes. Could you hear the alphabet? If you missed it, go back and listen again, but this time listen to the end and you'll see some clues! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BA2FAOfRnEY>

Composing

Have you ever noticed that, when you read a poem, the words seem to have a rhythm, just like music? Have you ever noticed how poems can paint pictures in your imagination? Music can have the same effect, too.

Poets tell stories through words; musicians tell stories through lyrics (poems) and music. As we read poems or listen to music, we build up pictures in our minds. Click on the link below and listen to this poem about a storm. What do you see in your imagination? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nr97DKhpgRg>

Click on the link below to listen to an actual storm. Close your eyes as you listen. Can you see the storm? Can you feel the storm? Take particular notice of the different sounds you hear. (You only need to listen for a couple of minutes, the clip goes on for MUCH longer). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nDq6TstdEi8>

Now it's your turn to create a storm!

Have a look around your home or classroom; can you find items that could create the sound of rainfall, wind, hail & thunder? Think of inventive ways that you can play them, for example, you may have some rice that you could pour into a bowl or onto a tray. What does that sound like? Experiment and have fun!

Before you use anything, please ask permission from an adult. We wouldn't want you to use your mum's favourite china or the family antique silver!

Think about how your storm will develop. You could replay the storm on YouTube and play along with it.

- Think about **dynamics**. Will your music be loud or quiet? Will the volume change gradually or suddenly?
- Borrow some family members to play your composition. Each person plays a different sound. We call these layers of sound **texture**. If you are in school, work together to create a storm ensemble.

ART: If you have paints/pastels/pencil crayons at home, you could paint what you saw in your imagination when you were performing your storm. Don't forget to give your masterpiece a title. Ask an adult to take a photo and send your artwork to us at Encore, we'd love to see it! Email address below.

Something a bit different!

Can you complete this rhythm game challenge?

First, learn the cup rhythm. Make sure you start slowly, then gradually get quicker as you become more confident! Trying it on your own is great but why not get people in your house to join in with you! You'll need enough plastic cups, of course! You'll find the instructions here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y5kYLOb6i5I>

Composing Challenge: Have a go at making up your own cup rhythms. Remember to use words to help you remember the rhythms. Could you compose rhythms that fit with a song you like. How about teaching your rhythm to members of your family?

All of us at Encore Music Service would love to see video clips of you taking part in any of this week's activities and share them on our social media channels. Remember, you must get permission from whoever looks after you first! Send to info@encore-enterprises.com

ANSWER

Singing - 'The Little Mermaid' by Hans Christian Andersen