

Beat Band Boogie

Imaginative learning project for year 2



Here comes the marching band. Left, right, left, right. Step in time to the beat: 1,2,3,4: let's make sounds, high and low. That sound is loud. That one's quiet. What can you hear? There are sounds all around. What's making each one. Name all the instruments in the band and be part of a 'body orchestra'. Pat your knees, clap your hands, tap your feet, let's move to the beat. Now march up the hill with the Grand Old Duke of York, beating your drum or shaking your shaker. Then it's time to perform. Your audience loves you, so let's take a bow.

Music & Science Focus. Key Facts:

- Music is a way of putting sounds together that people can listen to and enjoy. Music can be made by people singing or by playing musical instruments.
- A marching band is a group of musicians who perform their music while they are marching. They usually play brass, woodwind and percussion instruments.
- When an instrument is played, the air around or inside it vibrates. These vibrations travel as a sound wave through a medium, such as air or water, to the ear
- Pitch is how low or high a sound is. Parts of an instrument that are shorter, tighter, or thinner produce higher pitched sounds. For example, xylophones have wooden keys that vary in length. The long keys produce low-pitched sounds and the short keys produce high-pitched sounds
- Volume is how loud or quiet a sound is. The volume is louder when close to the source of the sound. Also, the harder an instrument is hit, plucked or blown, the louder the sound
- There are four main instrument groups: string, woodwind, brass and percussion
- Humans can use their voices to make a range of sounds. They can alter the volume, pitch, rhythm and tempo to create different effects

Key Vocabulary

- ⇒ **Band:** a small group of musicians who play music together
- ⇒ **Conductor:** a person who directs the performance of a choir or orchestra
- ⇒ **Harmony:** the singing or playing of music together to produce a pleasing sound
- ⇒ **Lyrics:** the words of a song
- ⇒ **Melody:** a tune made up of a series of musical notes that make a memorable sound
- ⇒ **Pulse:** the beat in a piece of music
- ⇒ **Rhythm:** the patterns of sounds, words or notes
- ⇒ **Tempo:** the speed of a piece of music

Homework Projects

- ◆ Use the internet or information books to find out about the famous composers: Mozart, Beethoven and Joplin. Write a short biography for each composer
- ◆ Write a persuasive letter to your friend to tell them why they should listen to your favourite music
- ◆ Find out, and write a sentence, to explain how musicians play the instruments in the woodwind, brass and string groups eg percussion instruments are struck or shaken
- ◆ Use the internet or a music app to listen to music from around the world. Search for traditional music from Japan, Africa, Greece and Ireland. Listen to the music carefully. List the instruments you hear and write sentences to explain how the music makes you feel