



ROCK AND ROLL BAND! MEET THE INSTRUMENTS

GET READY TO ROCK! A PRE-VISIT GUIDE FOR THE CLASSROOM TEACHER

TARGET GRADE LEVEL:

Grades K-4

CLASS DESCRIPTION:

In this exciting, interactive class, elementary school students examine the instrumentation of a rock band, discovering the low notes of the bass guitar, the pounding rhythms of the drums and percussion, the melodies and harmonies of guitars, keyboards, and more. Students have fun learning about the characteristics of the instruments and their sounds – and even perform along with the band! By investigating how musicians arrange the various instruments of a band, students discover how the different parts of classic rock and roll songs are created. This class includes historic video performances by Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Inductees, as well as live performances and demonstrations by the Rock Hall education ensemble. At the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum kids really do get a chance to ROCK!

OBJECTIVES:

As a result of this class, students will be able to

1. Identify the sounds of a variety of instruments and their parts.
2. Recognize the characteristics and scope of technology and relate them to music.
3. Describe the properties of sound energy.

RELATED OHIO ACADEMIC CONTENT STANDARDS:

English Language Arts

Phonemic Awareness, Word Recognition and Fluency

K-3 Benchmark A

Acquisition of Vocabulary

K-3 Benchmark A

4 Benchmark A

Science

Physical Sciences

K-2 Benchmark A

3-4 Benchmark F

Science and Technology

3-4 Benchmark A

Fine Arts—Music

Historical, Cultural, and Social Contexts

K-4 Benchmark C

Creative Expression and Communication

K-4 Benchmark A

Analyzing and Responding

K-4 Benchmark B

Valuing Music/Aesthetic Reflection

K-4 Benchmark A

Connections, Relationships and Applications

K-4 Benchmark C

Technology

Nature of Technology

K-2 Benchmark C

3-4 Benchmark C

Technology and Society Interaction

K-2 Benchmark C

3-4 Benchmark C



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SUGGESTED PRE-VISIT ACTIVITY:

WHAT DOES IT SOUND LIKE?

Place several objects on a table at the front of the classroom (e.g. keys, empty glass, wooden object, whistle). Let the students see each object. Ask students to describe what kind of sound each object will make. Have students close their eyes (or turn around). The teacher should then produce a sound with one of the objects. Have students open their eyes and vote on which object you just used to make the sound. Discuss with the class how the “actual” sound compares to their original guess. Repeat with the other objects. You may also want to make a sound with a mystery object and have students hypothesize about what kind of object might have produced the sound.

EXAMPLES TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLASS:

NOTE: Preview all materials for appropriateness for your students.

Roy Orbison. “Ooby Dooby.” 1956.

The Temptations. “Ain’t Too Proud To Beg.” *Getting’ Ready*, 1966.

Ray Charles. “What’d I Say.” *What’d I Say*, 1959.

Stevie Ray Vaughn. “Voodoo Chile.” *Couldn’t Stand the Weather*, 1984.

John Lennon. “Imagine.” *Imagine*, 1971.

Free, streaming videos of most performances can be found on www.youtube.com or blip.fm

Free, streaming audio tracks of most songs can be found on www.grooveshark.com or blip.fm



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GLOSSARY

- Arranger:** A person who organizes a song after it is composed by selecting the instruments that will play different parts
- Bass guitar:** The lowest-sounding guitar in rock and roll, often with only 4 strings
- Drum set /Trap kit:** A collection of drums, cymbals and sometimes other percussion instruments arranged so that one person can play all of them
- Electric Organ:** An instrument that uses electricity to make sound when keys and pedals are pressed; an electric organ often has two rows of keys, called manuals, and a pedalboard.
- Guitar:** A family of musical instruments that create sound when its strings are plucked or strummed
- Instrument:** An object or equipment that musicians use to make musical sounds
- Keyboard:** A family of musical instruments that create sound when keys are pressed
- Musician:** A person who creates, performs, and studies music
- Percussion:** A family of musical instruments that create sound when struck or hit; in rock and roll this is usually a drum set
- Piano:** A keyboard instrument that creates sound when a key is pressed and a hammer hits a string
- Synthesizer:** A keyboard instrument that uses electricity to imitate the sounds of many families of instruments

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