

Listening and Responding to Music

Question Cards: Early Level

Use these questions to explore a variety of different styles of music

Before Listening

(Optional - you may want to listen to the music first.)

Before you listen to the music, look at the name and a picture of the performer/group:

- Have you heard music by this singer/group before?
- Do you think they will be singing, playing instruments or both?

Look at the title of the music:

- How do you think the music will sound?
- Do you think you will like this piece of music?

Thoughts and Feelings

- How does the music make you feel?
- Does the music make you think of a particular colour? Which colour and why?
- What words would you use to describe the mood of the music?
- Have you heard any music which sounds like this before?
- Did the music make you think of anything or create a picture or story in your head?
- What did you notice about the music?
- Does the mood of the music stay the same all the way through?
- What do you like or dislike about the music?

Instruments and Voices

- Did you hear any instruments?
- Were there lots of instruments, just a few or only one?
- Did you hear any voices?
- Were there lots of voices, just a few or only one?
- Did you hear any voices/instruments that were very high or very low pitched?

Tempo and Dynamics (speed and volume)

- Was the music loud or quiet?
- Was the music fast or slow?
- Did the tempo or dynamics change? How did they change?

Beat, Rhythm and Melody

- Does the music have a strong beat?
- Can you tap the beat on your knees? Can you march to the beat?
- Are there any repeated rhythms?
- Can you clap/tap a rhythm you hear?
- Is there a main instrument or voice that plays/sings a melody?
- Do you hear long, smooth notes or more short and bouncy notes?

Structure and Texture

- Is there more than one section? How does the music change in each section?
- What happens at the beginning of the music? What happens at the end?
- Can you make up a dance/movements to match different sections of the music?
- Is there a main instrument or voice that plays/sings the melody?
- Did you hear a group of voices/instruments or just one voice/instrument?