

Your Imagination

by Joanna Mangona and Pete Readman

A song about using your imagination

Please use the accompanying **Activity Manual** for in-depth guidance, knowledge and understanding.

Unit Overview

This is a six-week Unit of Work. All the learning in this unit is focused around one song: Your Imagination.

If you are using this Unit of Work as part of the **Scheme**, it has been placed in **KS1, Year 1/Ages 5-6** and is supported by Listen & Appraise documentation, One-page step-by-step / weekly Lesson Plans, and an Assessment Framework. To deliver your music lesson musically, it is very important that you follow the step-by-step planning that accompanies the on-screen resources.

If you are using this Unit of Work flexibly, you will have chosen it from the **Freestyle** options. You decide which age group it will best suit. The Freestyle approach is also supported by Full Lesson Plans, Flexible One-page step-by-step / weekly Lesson Plans, a Flexible Planning Grid and an Assessment Framework.

The Strands of Musical Learning in this Unit of Work relate to and progress towards the 'End of Key Stage Expectations (Musical Learning for the end of KS1, Year 2/Ages 6-7)' document (see supporting Assessment documentation). Your step-by-step learning focus will be the new musical activity or the strand of musical learning that needs particular attention from the previous step (see 'Introduction to Assessment'). The remainder of the activities within the lesson are ongoing skills.

Accompanying both approaches is the **Activity Manual**. This manual is a detailed teacher guide for all activities and will provide comprehensive support for all teachers.

How this Unit is Organised

1. **Listen and Appraise** the song Your Imagination and other songs about using your imagination:
 - Your Imagination by Joanna Mangona and Pete Readman
 - Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious from Mary Poppins
 - Pure Imagination from Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory soundtrack
 - Daydream Believer by The Monkees
 - Rainbow Connection from The Muppet Movie
 - A Whole New World from Aladdin

2. **Musical Activities** - learn and/or build on your knowledge and understanding about the interrelated dimensions of music through:
 - a. Warm-up Games (including vocal warm-ups).
 - b. Flexible Games (optional extension work).
 - c. Learn to Sing the Song - step-by-step manageable learning chunks spread over the 6 steps. Or, the whole song so you can decide when to learn each section during the 6 steps.
 - d. **Option:** Play Instruments with the Song. Play the given parts or your own compositions/improvisations over the coda (the end section of the song, you will see it named on the screen) section of the song
 - e. **Option:** Improvise with the Song (over the coda section of the song).
 - f. **Option:** Compose with the Song (over the coda section of the song). As a class, you may want to write your own lyrics where you split into 2 groups to sing and copy back. Or, using the given notes, create a group composition.

3. **Perform the Song** - perform and share your learning as you progress through the Unit of Work.

Teaching and Learning Support for this unit:

Please use the accompanying **Activity Manual** for in-depth guidance, knowledge and understanding. There are detailed descriptions and support for each activity within each Unit of Work.

Use your imagination and create your own performance. Below are some ideas to help you:

- Sing the song as it is, including no musical activities. In the coda section, split the class into 2 groups to sing the parts.
- Add some choreography to the song.
- Sing the song and include one musical activity only in the coda section (playing, improvisation or composition).
- Sing the song and find a group of children to play instruments over the coda section of the song whilst the other children are singing. Instrumental parts are provided or you can devise your own using the composition tool.
- Why not try including more than 1 musical activity in the 'Call & Response' section of this song? Split the class into 3 groups:
 - i. Group 1 (play from 'Your imagination...' to 'Sparkling fairy dust...') - play instrumental parts, composed or given parts
 - ii. Group 2 (play from 'Colours of the rainbow...' to 'Dolphin...') - improvise all together or decide who will play a solo
 - iii. Group 3 - sing the coda part or the lyrics you have written in class
- Why don't you create your own lyrics in the coda section of this song? You will still need to split the class into 2 groups - sing and copy back.

Listen and Appraise

Each step has a Listen and Appraise document for your use, with all the research and information that is needed to complete the tasks and activities you see on-screen.

The main unit song is Your Imagination. All musical learning will happen around this song and you will have the option to Listen and Appraise other songs in other styles in steps 2-6.

See the individual Listen and Appraise step-by-step supporting documents for complete information.

Musical Activities

A. Warm-up Games (including Vocal Warm-ups)

Have fun playing these warm-up (pulse, rhythm and pitch) games. As you progress through the Unit of Work, the activities progress according to the unit and year group.

There are six progressive challenges, one for each step within the Unit of Work.

There is one continuous track that includes four games:

Game 1 - Find the pulse, use your imagination. Choose an animal and find the pulse.

Game 2 - Listen to the rhythm and clap back.

Game 3 - It's your turn. This game is teacher-led initially so make sure you are prepared!

Game 4a - Listen and sing back with added vocal warm-ups. Use your voices to copy back this time. Use 'La' when you are singing back.

Game 4b - Listen, sing back and some different vocal warm-ups. Use your voices to copy back using 'La'.

B. Flexible Games (optional extension activity)

These games are optional, flexible extension activities with Bronze, Silver and Gold Challenges.

These differentiated challenges are NOT a measure of attainment but about building musical skills in a fun and challenging way. All three games tracks are available here to be progressed through over the 6-step learning episode. You may want to revisit, for example the Bronze Challenge, to embed skills even if you have completed it and moved to Silver. The progression is in-built.

C. Learn to Sing the Song: Vocal Warm-ups and Singing

You may have already warmed up your voices in the previous activity but there are more vocal warm-ups, should you wish to use them, in Charanga Sing.

On the screen you will have the option to break the song down into manageable learning sections. There is also a tempo controller that will slow the song down to aid learning.

Add movement to the song and have fun. Let the children use their imaginations to choreograph movement to the song.

D. OPTION: Play Instruments with the Song: With or Without Notation

On the screen you will see animated glocks and recorders playing easy and medium differentiated parts by ear. Please **do** play the easy and medium parts on the glock if you have no recorder experience. The sheet music tab on your resource will give you access to three differentiated parts for all band/orchestral instruments. These notated parts can be shown on-screen if you are teaching a KS2/Age 7-11 class.

The notes you will be using on glockenspiel are:

Easy part - G (This part uses only 1 note BUT remember you have an option to compose your own easy part as a class. There will always be a child that will be happy using 1 note.)

Medium part - C, G and E

(See instrumental parts for other band/orchestral instruments).

This section of the unit is designed for you to rehearse the instrumental parts. You will rehearse these parts with the section of the song that you will play over, when you perform the song as a whole.

E. OPTION: Improvise with the Song: Using your Voices and Instruments

These activities have in-built progression for you to follow according to the unit, year group and Key Stage. Work through the challenges as suggested on the One-page Lesson Plan.

On the screen you can select your activity:

Challenges
<p>Clap and Improvise</p> <p>Listen and clap back then listen and clap your own answer</p>
<p>Sing and Play and Improvise</p> <p>Using your voices and instruments, listen and sing back, then listen and play your own answer using 2 notes, C moving to D.</p>
<p>Improvise</p> <p>Take it in turns to improvise.</p>

1. Clap and Improvise!

- Activity 1 : Clap back rhythms
- Activity 2: Start to improvise with a question and answer activity, clap back your own answer

2. Sing and Play and Improvise! (You will be using the notes C and D)

- Activity 1 : Using your voices, listen and sing back
- Activity 2: Using your instruments, play back
- Activity 3: Question and answer using instruments - start to improvise with a question and answer activity. Listen and play your own answer using 2 notes, C moving to D

3. Improvise! (You will be using the notes C and D)

- Take it in turns to improvise using the skills you have acquired. Use 1 or 2 notes. Practise improvising over the track of the song you are learning. You can clap, sing or play, you decide. Take it in turns to improvise or, play in groups.

Using the notes from your activity, improvise within the given performance option in 'Perform the Song'. You can improvise all together, in groups or as a solo - you decide.

F. OPTION: Compose with the Song: Using your Instruments

(Please refer to the **Activity Manual** for more information about composition.)

Add a selection of the children's compositions during the playing/instrumental section of this song.

Creating the Compositions

1. Whole-class activity – only if you are using one kind of instrument throughout the class, eg all glockenspiels, all recorders; or if you are an instrumental teacher, all clarinets, all violins, all trumpets etc.

Compose the tune with one person at the whiteboard. Encourage all children to put forward their ideas. After the tune has been composed, children will learn to play it on their instruments, so keep it simple!

2. Group activity – if you have a mixture of instruments in your class eg some clarinets, some flutes etc. This will be more likely in KS2/Ages 7-11. (Again, see **Activity Manual**.)

Divide the class into groups so the children can work together to compose a piece, independent of the teacher.

Click 'play' on the composition screen and you will hear the instrumental section. Drag and drop the notes that you want to use in your composition. Note-names are written in the vertical column on the left hand side.

Once you're happy with your piece you can:

- 'Save audio' which will save an audio (.wav) file of the composed music and the backing track together
- 'Save pattern' which saves a data (.xml) file of only the notes you put in the grid for reloading next time
- 'Load pattern' which lets you locate your saved pattern (.xml) file for loading in

The navigation buttons (at bottom left) operate:

- Volume – controls overall volume
- Play – plays or pauses playback
- Rewind to start – takes you back to the beginning
- Loop – plays the backing only

Practising the Composition

The track repeats indefinitely by default until it is stopped or the loop is switched off. In rehearsal, any number of children can play their composition, one child per repeat, working from whatever notation they choose or by ear.

Performing the Compositions

When performing with the track, children will play their composition during the playing/instrumental section.

When the children are ready to play their compositions as part of the whole song, move to the performance section of the unit.

Which Instruments and Which Notes? (see Activity Manual for support)

Perform and Share

Remember to add some movement.

These are the options on the screen:

- Perform the whole song
- Perform the whole song with your activities of choice over the coda section of the song