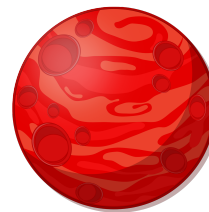


Music Hub Activities Newsletter

Summer Term Week 4

Mars from The Planets Suite

Gustav Holst 1874 - 1934



Key Stage 1

Guided Listening Activity

Click on the link of Mars by Gustav Holst and watch the first few minutes of the orchestra performance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXOanvv4pIU>

1. How does the music make you feel?
2. This music is called Mars - can you draw something from space which matches the music e.g. a rocket, planets, aliens?

Draw here



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Key Stage 2

Guided Listening Activity



Click on the link of Mars by Gustav Holst listen and watch the first few minutes of the orchestra performance (or all of it if you like!)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXOanvv4pIU>

1. How does the music make you feel?

.....

.....

2. What is the first instrument you see playing?

.....

3. What family of instruments does this instrument come from? (circle your answer)

Brass

Strings

Woodwind

Percussion

4. What other instruments in the video can you name?

.....

.....

.....

5. The string players are playing with a technique called **Col Legno**, watch again and see what you think this means?

.....

.....



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Key Stage 1

Practical Music Activity

Let's get moving with this Just Dance Space set action song!



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZ6Og_q7ZaY

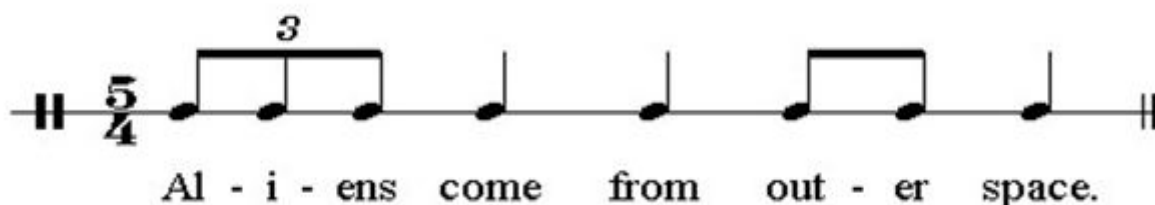
Key Stage 2 *(challenge activity for KS1)*

Practical Music Activity

Listen to Mars again or listen/watch a few more minutes of this amazing performance at the BBC Proms Festival in the Albert Hall <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXOanvv4pIU>

Play/clap this rhythm along with the music, the words below will help you to play the correct rhythm. You could also try doing this with a percussion instrument OR you could use a plastic spoon banging a plastic plate, or something that is in your recycling box! Think about different materials, like **wood**, **metal** and **plastic** and the difference between the sounds that they make.

Can you keep in time to the music?



Key Stage 1 & 2

Research Topic

Mars is one of seven orchestral pieces in a set of pieces called **The Planets Suite** by the English composer Gustav Holst.



1. When and where was Holst born?

.....

2. What are the other six planets in The Planets Suite, can you name them all?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Key Stage 2

Holst gave each planet a character which you can hear in the music, Mars is *The Bringer of War*. How does the music match the character of each planet? Complete the chart below filling in the names of the planets, their character and how you think the music describes this?

<u>Planet</u>	<u>Character description</u>	<u>Why? What in the music suggests this?</u>
Mars	The Bringer of War	Spiky, loud, aggressive, lots of brass, strong rhythms



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Here are the links so you can listen to the rest of the Planet Suite.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mp5gksq_OEI&list=PLtu4VBIA5UDnNjzrkObg1qpfgkN7UtCQi&index=2

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3dcMSNgvxpU&list=PLtu4VBIA5UDnNjzrkObg1qpfgkN7UtCQi&index=3>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BUM_zT3YKHs&list=PLtu4VBIA5UDnNjzrkObg1qpfgkN7UtCQi&index=4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYPg8H5LtCI&list=PLtu4VBIA5UDnNjzrkObg1qpfgkN7UtCQi&index=5>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oFMXNUHuWug&list=PLtu4VBIA5UDnNjzrkObg1qpfgkN7UtCQi&index=6>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lGfwxpuY2jY&list=PLtu4VBIA5UDnNjzrkObg1qpfgkN7UtCQi&index=7>



Key Stage 1 & 2



Digital & Creative Music Making

1. What do you think it's like on Mars?
2. Use your answer to that question to create a rhythm i.e. "very red and far away"
3. Try saying your phrase over a steady pulse or beat
4. Now try clapping the rhythm of your phrase over a constant beat

Ve - ry	red and	far a -	way
1	2	3	4

Congratulations you've composed your own **Ostinato** rhythm! A repeating pattern in music is called an **Ostinato**.

Rehearse your own **Ostinato** pattern and then see if you can fit it together with others in your school or at home to form one piece of music. Your **Ostinato** patterns could also be played using a different sound for each one: plastic plate, saucepan, wooden spoon etc

Key Stage 2 Challenge

How could you make your **Ostinato** composition into more of a 'performance'?
Think about the following:

- Who will start?
- How many times will they repeat the pattern until the next person starts? Will you drop out one at a time in reverse order or all stop at the same time?
- Dynamics - Will you start quietly and gradually get louder? Will everyone play loudly at the start then fade out?
- Tempo - How fast or slowly will you play? Will you start slowly and get faster and faster? Or start fast and gradually slow down.
- Take it in turns to be the "Conductor", someone will need to indicate to people as to when they should play and/or stop, how fast/slow they should play and how loud/quiet they should be!

If possible, record/video your piece when you are happy with it. Watch it back and see if there is anything that you might like to do differently or improve.



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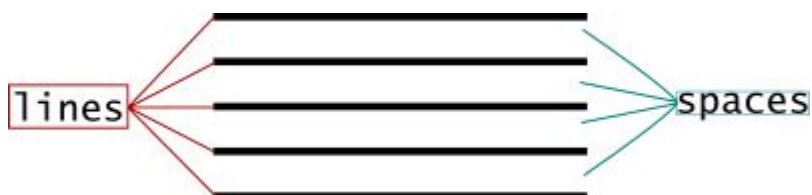
Key Stage 1

Reading Music Activity

PITCH



Musical notes are written on a set of five lines and four spaces called a STAVE.



1. On this staff, number the **LINES** from low to high

2. On this staff, number the **SPACES** from low to high

3. Draw a note on each **LINE** of the staff below.

4. Draw a note on each **SPACE** of the staff below.


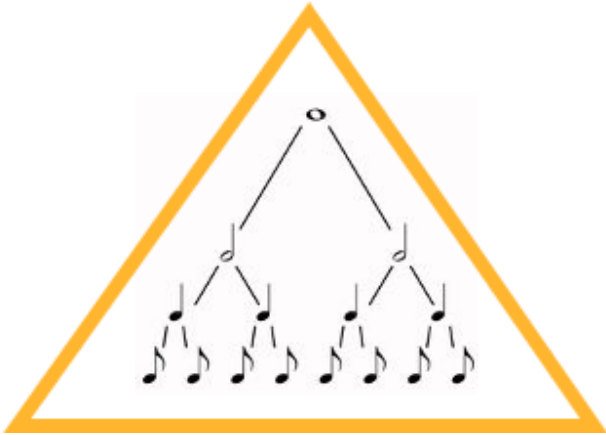




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RHYTHM

Here is a chart showing the different notes and their values.

	Semibreve (Whole note)	4 beats	
	Minim (Half note)	2 beats	
	Crotchet (Quarter note)	1 beat	

Can you colour in these blank versions of the notes the same colour as they are in the chart?
One has been done for you to demonstrate



Key Stage 2

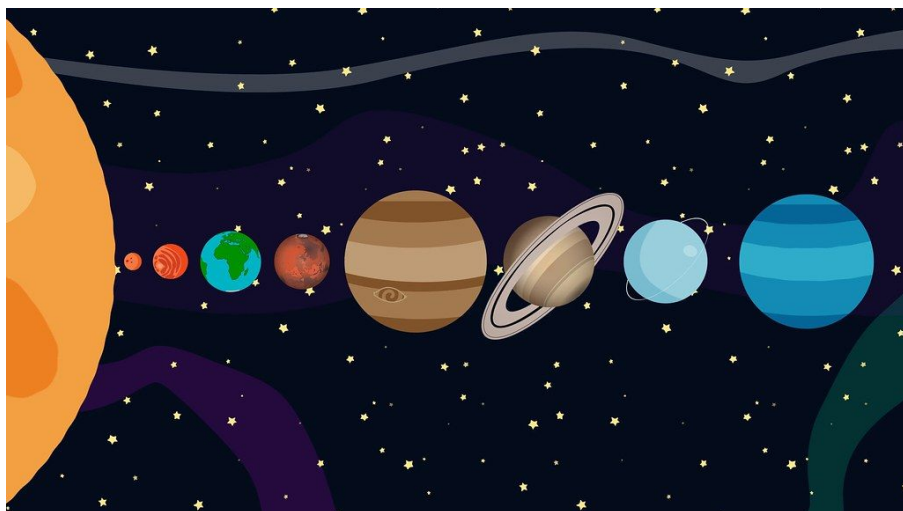
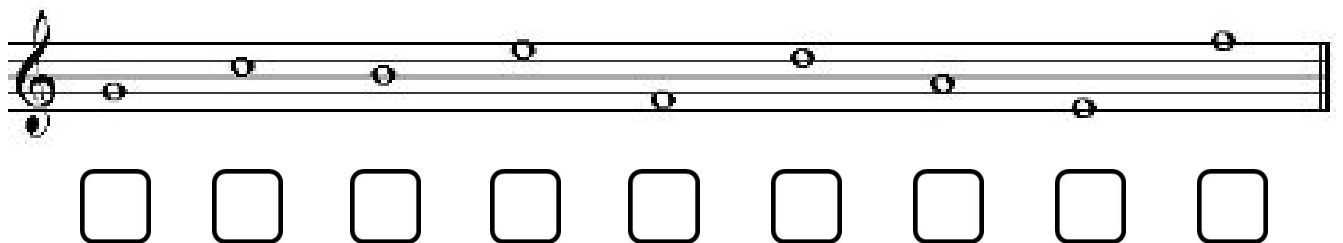
Reading Music Activity

PITCH


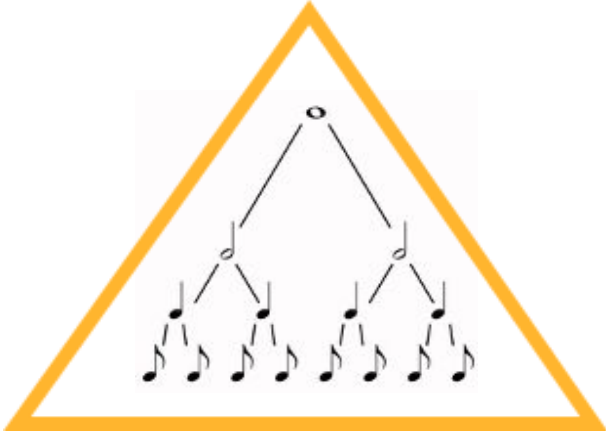



Musical notes are named after the first seven letters of the alphabet – A to G



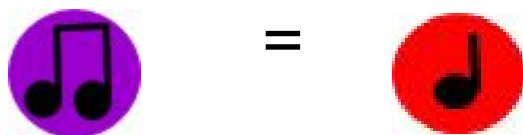
Write the names of the notes in the box beneath each note.



RHYTHM

	Semibreve (Whole note)	4 beats	
	Minim (Half note)	2 beats	
	Crotchet (Quarter note)	1 beat	
	Quaver (Eight note)	$\frac{1}{2}$ beat	

Quavers are grouped together in pairs to make a crotchet beat:



Triplets (a feature of the Ostinato pattern in Mars) are groups of three notes played in the time of one crotchet beat:



Musical Sums! - Add these notes together and write your answers in the boxes:

$$\text{Red Quarter Note} + \text{Blue Quarter Note} = \boxed{}$$

$$\text{Green Half Note} - \text{Red Quarter Note} = \boxed{}$$

$$\text{Purple Beamed Eighth Notes} + \text{Red Quarter Note} + \text{Blue Quarter Note} = \boxed{}$$

$$\text{Green Half Note} + \text{Triplet of Four Sixteenth Notes} = \boxed{}$$

$$\text{Blue Quarter Note} - \text{Purple Beamed Eighth Notes} - \text{Triplet of Four Sixteenth Notes} = \boxed{}$$

$$\text{Green Half Note} + \text{Blue Quarter Note} + \text{Purple Beamed Eighth Notes} = \boxed{}$$

