

Year 8 Music | Blues and Rock 'n' Roll

Key Question: Why is “The Blues” considered to be the most important art form of the 20th century?

Topic Overview: Students will learn how the 20th century art form “the blues” gave birth to Rock N Roll. Students will learn how the simple repetitive chord structure of the blues was to influence and still influence popular music of the past and today.

| | Lesson Exploration | Lesson Experience(s) | Knowledge & Skills | Key Words |
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| Week 1: Lesson 1 | How do you play the 12 bar Blues? | Students will experience a range of listening and performance opportunities during this lesson, including: 1) listening to different blues compositions; 2) understanding the origins of the blues and the importance of the blues for musical history; 3) learning a 12 bar blues chord sequence. | KN1: use staff and other relevant notations appropriately and accurately: students will use musical notation to read 12 bar blues chord sequences and the walking bassline. KN2: identify and use the inter-related dimensions of music: students will learn about different types of scales, including the blues scale. KN3: develop a deepening understanding of the music and its history: students will develop a deeper understanding of the blues, including its origin and history. SK1: play and perform confidently in a range of solo and ensemble contexts: students will have an opportunity to | Structure Bars Chord Chord Sequence Melody Rhythm improvisation blues scale Tempo Dynamics Finger positions Accompaniment Solo Duet Ensemble |
| Week 2: Lesson 1 | Why is the bassline so important? How do I play a blues bassline? | Students will experience working in pairs to learn how to play a left-hand bass pattern. Furthermore, students will have an opportunity to perform in pairs (as a duo) and put the bassline and 12 bar blues chord sequence together. | | |
| Week 3: Lesson 1 | How can I play as part of an ensemble? | Students will experience performing as part of a duet. | | |
| Week 4: Lesson 1 | How do both hands fit together? | Students will experience using both hands when playing the keyboard. | | |
| Week 5: Lesson 1 | Assessment: To be able to play the 12-bar blues with two hands. | Students will experience performing the 12-bar blues with both hands. | | |

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| <p>Week 6: Lesson 1</p> | <p>Try Now - How do I improve as a blues musician?</p> | <p>Students will experience using feedback to develop their practise with a focus given to them by the teacher.</p> | <p>practise and perform independently and in pairs.</p> <p>SK2: improvise and compose: students will have an opportunity to improve using the blues scale.</p> <p>SK3: listen with increasing discrimination: students will evaluate their own work and listen with increasing discrimination; students will listen to a range of blues compositions.</p> | |
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