



Wigan Music Service Whole Class Instrumental Lessons at Home



WOODWIND

Investigate



We are going to investigate Pitch and Melody.....do you know what they are?

Watch this video on BBC Bitesize music to find out more:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcbkci6/articles/zp99cj6>

Pitch is how high or low a note is and putting different pitches together can make a great melody!

Warm up your instrument by playing the highest note you know then work down each pitch to the lowest note you've learnt.

Do you notice a pattern between the pitch and your fingers?

To make your notes lower you cover the holes and make the tube longer. The longer the tube the lower the note, which is why the biggest instruments can play the lowest sounds and the smallest can play the highest!

Listen Up!

Pitch and melody can be used for creating or representing any ideas and even for telling stories. A composer called Prokofiev wrote music for 'Peter and the Wolf' which is about a Russian folk story. Prokofiev uses melody mixed with choice of pitch to represent the characters. These are the woodwind instruments and the characters they play:

The Bassoon which is the lowest sounding instrument in the woodwind family plays the grandfather:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZP5y65uTWNU>

The flute which is the highest sounding instrument in the woodwind family plays the bird: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxPGH0wc20M>

The clarinet plays the cat <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjracXGTtDU>

The oboe plays the duck <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RvlnYYFpAw>

Do you think Prokofiev's use of pitch helps you imagine the characters?

Listen to this piece of music we will be working with; Fight Song by Rachel Platten <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xo1VInw-SKc>

What do you notice about the pitch? Does it sound low or high? Are there big jumps in pitch or does it have small changes?



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Make Some Music



We are going to learn how to play the chorus of fight song. If you perform this piece at home you can sing the whole song or sing the verses and play the chorus! It uses the same three notes you played on the last work sheet.

This link shows the words for the verses and the notes for descant recorders in the chorus:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B9Th7MI2Zgg>

These are the notes for descant recorders:

BAG G G BAG AA AAA BB--- X2

GGG GGG B---A---

Treble recorders use these notes to play the chorus unaccompanied:

EDC C C EDC DD DDDEE---C - X2

CCC CCC E---D---C---

If you don't have a recorder at home use your hand to show the pitch you would be playing for the chorus of fight song. Alternatively use your body to show the pitch changes – hands on head for highest note, hands on shoulders for middle note and hands on waist for lowest note.

More Fun!

Use some scarfs, socks or anything you have handy to make a ladder on the floor; try make at least 4 lines. Use the bottom space for your lowest note working up in pitch so the top space is the highest note. Can you walk up and down the ladder singing the pitch going higher and lower. Try make up your own melody using the ladder.

Use jars and water to make your own set of instruments with different pitches. Follow the instructions on this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFwtybB3R6Q>

Can you play the chorus to fight song using your musical jars?!