



Knowledge Organiser: The Four Seasons

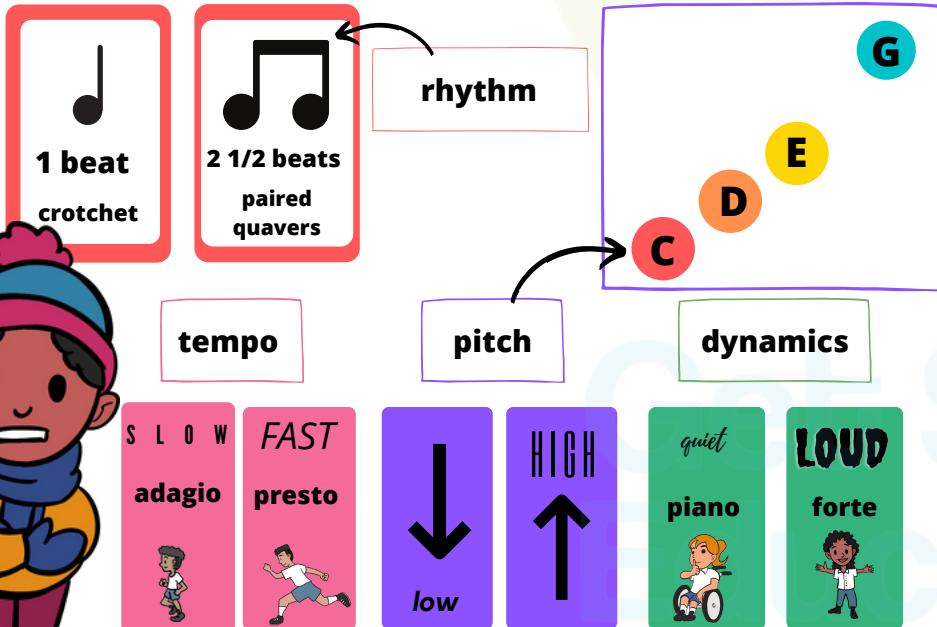


Topic Background

Antonio Vivaldi was born in 1678 and lived in Italy. He was a composer and violinist. The most well known piece of music he wrote was a set of violin concertos called 'The Four Seasons.' A concerto is a piece of music that is like a conversation between the orchestra and a solo instrument or a small solo group. These concertos feature four movements, Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. Each movement sounds different and represents the season they are named after, for example Winter has a smooth rhythm to represent the slow fall of the snowflakes and then a fast trill of the violins to describe cold chattering teeth. While Vivaldi's music was quite popular in his lifetime, towards the end of his life his music fell out of popularity and he died poor.



Musical Knowledge



Listening Pieces

- The Four Seasons, Vivaldi, 1723
- Sumer is Icumen In, Anon, Medieval



Key Instruments



Key Vocabulary

adagio: slow
baroque: an era in the history of music from 1600-1750. Music has lots of changes in dynamics, tempo and texture.
conductor: the leader of the orchestra, letting the musicians know when and how to play
crotchet: a note worth one beat, represented by a stem with a solid dot
dynamics: how loud or quiet a sound is
forte: loud
melody: the tune of the music made up of high and low pitches
orchestra: a group of performers who play various musical instruments
paired quavers: two 1/2 beat notes
piano: quiet
pitch: how high or low a sound is
presto: very fast
pulse: the steady the steady heartbeat of the music. beat of the music
round: a song in which singers perform the same melody but at staggered starting points, producing an overlapping harmony
tempo: how fast or slow the music is

