



Meadows First School Music Curriculum

Year 4 Knowledge Organiser

Summer 1: Blackbird (The Beatles)



Key Composers and listening

Listen and appraise other songs by The Beatles

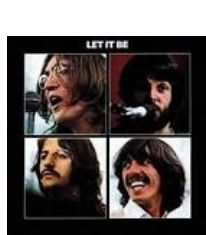
Yellow Submarine

Hey Jude

Can't Buy Me Love

Yesterday

Let It Be



Theme: All the learning in this unit is focused around one song: Blackbird by The Beatles - a song about equality and civil rights.

Facts/info: In the 1950s and 1960s, slavery had been abolished in America, but racism was still rife and life wasn't equal for African Americans. The civil rights movement – led by Martin Luther King Jr. – challenged this. There was a huge struggle for equality. Lots of dreadful things were going on and people were dying. After reading about this, Paul wrote the song Blackbird about a black woman, in support of the Black Power Movement. The Beatles helped to reshape Western Pop music in the 1960s and are one of the most successful bands ever. The Beatles had four members: John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr. There is the opportunity to find out more about the pop group The Beatles and their significant contribution to the reshaping of Western pop music and their fights for civil liberty.

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Structure	How the sections of a song (e.g. verse, chorus) are ordered to make a whole piece.
Texture	A section in a song which has the same tune but different words.
Pentatonic Scale	A fixed five-note pattern e.g: the five black keys on a piano.
Improvise	To create sounds freely without preparation which will probably not be played the same way again.
Compose	To write or record sounds so that they can be played again in the same way.
Structure	How the sections (verses and choruses etc) of a song are ordered to make the whole piece.
Instruments, voices you can hear	Solo male vocals in the verses, another male vocal in the choruses, acoustic guitar, percussion, birdsong.
Hook or Riff	A term used in pop music to describe a short catchy phrase or ri that we can't stop singing; the bit that 'hooks' us in; the main musical idea from a song that we remember.

KEY SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

I can decide how to perform this song. It tells an important story.

I can tell my audience how I learnt this song and why.

I can record the performance and talk about it afterwards.

Reflection

Did you have any strong feelings about it?

Were you happy or annoyed?

If you were thinking about how loud or quiet to perform a phrase, what word would you be considering? The dynamics.

Name what the structure of a piece of music include? Verse or chorus