

Grange Park Primary School Year 5 Spring 1 Music

Learning songs to perform at Voice in a Million

Key composer, genre and instruments

Sir Elton Hercules John CH CBE is a British singer, pianist and composer. Collaborating with lyricist Bernie Taupin since 1967, John is one of the most successful artists of all time, having sold over 300 million records worldwide in a six decade career in music.



He was born with the name **Reginald Kenneth Dwight** on 25 March 1947. He is known particularly for his work during the 1970s and 80s, and his lasting impact on the music industry. John's music and showmanship have had a significant impact on popular music. His songwriting partnership with Taupin is one of the most successful in history. John was raised in the Pinner suburb of London and learned to play piano at an early age, forming the blues band Bluesology in 1962. He became a solo artist in 1967.

Elton John has sold over 300 million records worldwide, making him one of the best-selling artists of all time. He has more than fifty Top 40 hits including nine number ones in the UK and US, as well as seven consecutive number-one albums in the US. His tribute single 'Candle in the Wind 1997', a rewritten version of his 1974 single in dedication to Princess Diana, sold over 33 million copies worldwide and is the best-selling chart single of all time. In 2021, John became the first solo artist with UK Top 10 singles across six decades.

Elton has won many awards for his music. He has also written music for several musicals including the Lion King (The Circle of Life) and Billy Elliot. He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II for services to music and charitable services in 1998.



Key Skills

Sing from memory with confidence.

Know and practise appropriate breathing exercises and know why this helps with singing.

Use voices with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.

Perform with controlled breathing.

Sing a harmony part of a song and hold own tune.

Sing with expression.

Perform actions as part of the songs.



Relevant songs

Don't give up on Me
Chosen Family
I'm still standing - Elton John
It's OK - Imagine Dragons
Reach - S Club 7
Wake up - Julie and the Phantoms
Dance Monkey - Tones and I
Broken Beautiful - Kelly Clarkson
One Call Away - Charlie Puth
Someone to You - Banners
We are the World - Michael Jackson and Lionel Richie
You are my Song
Unconditionally - Katy Perry
Something just like this - The Chainsmokers and Coldplay

Key Vocabulary

vocals

Voices.

backing

Music without vocals.

good posture

A way of standing to enable good breathing and singing.

solo artist

A singer performing on their own.

collaboration

When music artists join together to make a record.

70s/80s/90s pop

Popular music of the decade.

upbeat

Music which is uplifting and positive, often with a strong pulse.

harmony

Singing in different parts which sound nice together.

