

Year 3 Autumn 1: Reading Notation: Rhythm and Tempo

Key Skills	Key Vocabulary	Key Composers	Musical Genres
Rhythm Reading & Notation: Reading, performing, and writing simple rhythms with note values including crotchets (ta), paired quavers (ti-ti), two-beat notes (ta-a), and rests (sh) using stick and dot notation. Pulse vs. Rhythm Differentiation: Distinguishing between the steady heartbeat (pulse) and word pattern/syllables (rhythm) using instruments, movement, and physical props. Tempo Control & Response: Adjusting performance speed (faster/slower) in response to musical tracks or a leader, while keeping a steady beat through tempo changes. Multi-Part Ensemble Layering: Performing simultaneous multi-part layers, such as playing glockenspiel mini-chords on the pulse while other groups tap the rhythm and sing. Ostinato Performance: Clapping, speaking, and playing 4-beat rhythmic ostinatos alongside listening tracks across tempo variations. Pitch & Vocal Accuracy: Identifying pitch variations (so, mi, la) using singing names, hand signs, line-of-8 physical scaffolding, and introductory stave visualization. Ensemble Notation Cycles: Performing multi-card rhythm cycles in small groups using chairs, drumsticks, and track-based rotation games	Pulse: The steady heartbeat of a piece of music. Rhythm: The pattern created by the words, sounds, and syllables. Tempo: How fast or slow the speed of the music is. Call & Response: A form of musical conversation where one phrase (call) is followed by an answering phrase (response). Crotchet (ta): A single beat note value. Paired Quavers (ti-ti): Two half-beat notes grouped together. Stick Notation: A simple way of reading and writing rhythms to show note durations and rhythm names. Ostinato: A short, continually repeated rhythmic pattern. Pitch (so, mi, la): How high or low a musical note sounds.	George Frideric Handel: Baroque composer of the coronation anthem <i>Zadok the Priest</i>, composed for King George II and performed at the coronation of King Charles III. Johannes Brahms: Romantic classical composer of <i>Hungarian Dance No. 5</i>, used to practice playing notation through dramatic tempo changes. John Fogerty: Songwriter of the 1971 soul classic <i>Proud Mary</i>. 	Baroque Classical: Formal orchestral music featuring a slow 4/4 tempo (<i>Zadok the Priest</i>). Soul: Upbeat popular music with distinct tempo shifts (<i>Proud Mary</i> by Ike and Tina Turner). Romantic Classical: Fast-moving orchestral dance music with fluctuating tempi (<i>Hungarian Dance No. 5</i>). Traditional & Folk Music: Call-and-response folk songs from Ghana (<i>Che Che Kule</i>), West Africa (<i>Senwa Dedende</i>), East Africa (<i>Jambo</i>), and traditional North American folk rhymes.

Instruments & Equipment

Tuned Instruments: Glockenspiels (used for playing F and D mini-chords and pitches so, mi, la).

Untuned Percussion: Djembe / large drum, Claves / drumsticks, Hand-held drums / tambourines, Hand bells, Assorted classroom percussion.

Movement & Visual Scaffolding Props: Scarves, Bean bags / star sponge / heart sponge, Floor spots, Rhythm flashcards, Chairs (for drumstick rhythm cycles), Whiteboard & markers, P/R (Pulse/Rhythm) paddle.

