

St Leo's and Southmead Catholic Nursery and Primary School

Year Four

Music Knowledge Organiser

Beatkes-Blackbird

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.

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.



Beatles Blackbird

Curriculum Links

Geography Link: Previous topic was Liverpool

English Link: Report topic on Nelson

Nurture, Inspire, Succeed

Summer Term

Amazing Activities

Perform for parents

Skills

- **Sing** and **play** with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression both solo and as a group
- Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes
- Listen with attention to detail, follow and copy oral and musical sounds
- Recall sounds with increasing aural memory
- Understand staff and other musical notations
- Appreciate and understand a wide range of high quality music, from different genres, composers

	<u>Key Vocabulary</u>
Acoustic guitar	No electric amp. Hollow body
percussion	Instrument that is hit with hand/beater
melody	A sequence of single notes: a tune
civil rights/ equality	Rights of people to political and social freedom/ in status, rights, opportunities
pentatonic scale	a musical scale of five tones in which the octave is reached at the sixth tone
pulse	Consists of a pattern of beats
rhythm	The music's pattern: drum beat
unison	Perform (sing/play) together
pitch	High or low
Texture structure	Tempo, harmonic & melodic combined
Hook	To get audience's attention
riff	Repeated phrase used as introduction

Key Concepts

Listen and Appraise:

Blackbird (Pop) Themes: Equality, civil rights.

Instruments/voices you can hear: Solo male vocals in the verses, another male vocal in the choruses, acous-

tic guitar, percussion, birdsong.

•Do the words of the song tell a story? Does the music create a story in your imagination? What story?

Musical Activities using glacks

Warm-up games play and copy back using 2 notes - C + D. Bronze: no notes | Silver: C | Gold: C, sometimes D challenge. Which challenge did you get to? Singing in unison.

Play instrumental parts with the song by ear and/or from notation using the easy or medium part. You will be using up to 3 notes – C, D + E.

Which part did you play?

Improvise using up to 3 notes – C, D + E. Branze: C | Silver: C, and sometimes D | Gold: C, D + E challenge. Which challenge did you get to?

Compose a simple melody using simple rhythms choosing from the notes C, D + E or C, D, E, G + A (the pentatonic scale).

Perform & Share

Decide how you going to perform this song. It tells an important story. Tell your audience how you learnt this song and why.

Record the performance and talk about it afterwards. The performance will include one or more of the following: Improvisations • Instrumental performances • Compositions

