

Key Vocabulary

keyboard	An electric instrument played like the piano. It has a range of pre-recorded sounds.
drums	A percussion instrument sounded by being struck with sticks or the hands.
bass	Tones of low frequency, pitch and range. They belong to different families of instruments and can cover a wide range of musical roles.
imagination	Creativity in music.
improvise	To make up a tune and play it on the spot. There is an assumption that it can never be recreated.
compose	Creating and developing musical ideas and 'fixing' them.
disco	Short for discotheque - dance music from the 1970s, characterized by hypnotic rhythm, repetitive lyrics and electronically produced sounds.
pentatonic scale	A fixed five-note pattern e:g: the five black keys on a piano.

Disco songs

- Good Times by Nile Rodgers
- Ain't Nobody by Chaka Khan
- We Are Family by Sister Sledge
- Ain't No Stopping Us Now by McFadden and Whitehead
- Car Wash by Rose Royce

Objectives

- To explain how songs tell a story or describe an idea.
- To listen to rhythms and clap them back.
- To learn the melody for songs and perform with increase accuracy.
- To explain the meaning of the words pitch, dynamics and tempo.
- To use movement to enhance the musicality of a song.
- To sing using a comfortable singing position.
- To play an instrument and sing in time with a steady pulse.
- To compose simple melodies using up to three notes.

Significant People



Gloria Gaynor

Born on 7th September 1943, Gloria Gaynor is an American singer, best known for her disco songs I Will Survive, Never Can Say Goodbye, Let Me Know (I Have a Right) and I Am What I Am. She still sings today and supports many charities. She has received many awards in her career including the Martin Luther King Award for going beyond to inspire others.

Key Facts

Disco music includes strong drum and bass lines. It has quite a fast tempo with a steady dance groove and energetic electric guitar lines. Disco first appeared in the 1970s in New York.

Key Vocabulary

pulse	The regular heartbeat of the music; its steady beat.
rhythm	Long and short sounds or patterns that happen over the pulse.
pitch	High and low sounds.
tempo	The speed of the music; fast or slow or in-between.
dynamics	How loud or quiet the music is.
texture structure	Layers of sound. Layers of sound working together make music very interesting to listen to.
hook	A term used in Pop music to describe a short catchy phrase or riff that we can't stop singing; the bit that 'hooks' us in; the main musical idea from a song that we remember.
riff	A short repeated phrase, often played on a lead instrument such as guitar, piano or saxophone.
melody	Another name for tune.

Reflection

What did you like best about this Unit? Why?
 Was there anything you didn't enjoy about it? Why?
 Did you have any strong feelings about it?
 Were you proud of yourself, happy or annoyed?
 What are the 'style indicators' of Disco music?
 How do you know this is Disco music?