

## African Music



Year 5

Spring 2

### What should I already know?

- How to sing with expression as a group member
- Different parts of the world have developed different instruments and sounds
- How to read simple rhythms from notation
- How to play instruments with good technique and control

### What will I know by the end of the unit?

- Some traditional African songs in Swahili and other African languages
- Which instruments originate in Africa
- How to play some African rhythms as a group member
- How to play and sing using 'call and response' in compositions

### Vocabulary

xylophone	a tuned percussion instrument with wooden notes
djembe	a type of drum - originally from West Africa - played with the hands
dumbek	a type of goblet shaped North African drum
mbira	a thumb piano - often made on the shell of a coconut
cabasa	a percussion instrument made from beads attached over a gourd
jambo	Swahili for 'hello'
'call and response'	a musical question and answer
tuned percussion	percussion instruments (instruments that are struck or shaken) on which a melody or tune can be played (usually different note bars for each note of the scale)
untuned percussion	percussion instruments (instruments that are struck or shaken) that only a rhythmic sound can be played on



Have a listen to some traditional African music:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LOS0kA\\_O6IQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LOS0kA_O6IQ)

Can you name these African instruments?



Find out where the name djembe comes from and what its name means.

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Choose one of the following instruments, draw it or find an image and write a paragraph about it saying which part of Africa it comes from, how it is played/used and what it is made from.

dondo

kora

balafon

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