

Indian Music

Lesson 1

Learning Intention: To recognise the sounds and instruments used in Indian Music

1. Play short extract from Cd/tape of traditional Indian Music. Ask pupils what part of the World they think it comes from and why.
2. In rough books draw 4 columns

Indian Instrument	European Equivalent	Family	Voice on keyboard

Listen to examples of music again and fill in first 3 columns through discussion

3. Give children time in pairs to find appropriate voices on keyboards and make a note of which keyboard and what number voice each instrument is. NB on PSR 295 the sitar type voices are in the 400's! There is a pair on Tabla, but bongos would be a suitable replacement.

Plenary: Copy work into neat for folder and/or read through India section of 'Creating Music Throughout the World' (Chinese dragon on cover – kept in bookcase)

Lesson 2

Learning Intention: To select suitable instruments to perform a section of the story 'Krishna and the King of the Snakes'

1. Revise names of Indian instruments. Read through India section from 'Creating Music..' if not done last week.
2. Give out Indian music sheets and story 'Krishna and the King of the Snakes' read through and discuss as a class.
3. Divide class into groups of 4-5 pupils. (Let children choose groups if this is appropriate) Give out laminated worksheets for Groups 1-5 (There may be more than one group for each section of the story) Explain that each group must use the notes of the raga on their sheet to improvise the melody, thinking about tempo and dynamics as befits their part of the story. Each group must also have a drone using at least the lowest note of the raga, but other notes may be used to make an ostinato. Each group must also have some percussion – tabla plus other instruments if appropriate. They may choose to have a narrator who reads before the music is played or whilst the music is being played.
4. Give each group an area to rehearse in and discuss their choices of instruments. Use information from last week to aid choices.

Plenary: Demonstrate or get children to demonstrate improvisation using the raga.

Lesson 3

Learning Intention: To prepare part of the story of 'Krishna and the King of the Snakes' using suitable instruments.

1. Remind groups about using suitable instruments and that they must have an improvised melody, a drone and a rhythmic accompaniment. Suggest that they can vary the dynamics and tempo as appropriate to their section of the story. They may not want the melody throughout the whole piece so they could have breaks in the melodic line or have two people playing a melody so that they can alternate. This is particularly appropriate in the battle between Krishna and the King of the snakes – one does a Krishna melody, the other a 'snake' melody.
2. Give the groups time to rehearse and an area to rehearse in.
3. /Plenary: If groups are ready today, they may want to record their work. Alternatively, any good examples can be played to the rest of the class and recording done next week.

Lesson 4

Learning Intention: To perform and record part of the story of 'Krishna and the King of the Snakes'

1. Remind pupils that music needs to be at least a minute long and that they need to include a reading of their part of the story at some point during the performance. Any recordings done on cassette need the names and instruments played by the group. You may wish to let each group do their own recording or supervise the recordings. It is good if the parts of the story can be recorded on the same tape in the correct order (group 1, group2.....group5) If done on separate cassettes they can then be played back to the class in the correct order.
2. Rehearse and record work.

Plenary: Play back recordings to the class.

NB: If some groups are finished before the end of the lesson, they can either finish copying their lists of instruments into neat or on lined paper, can draw a border and decorate it with images from their part of the story in readiness for evaluation work next week.

Lesson 5

Learning Intention: To write an evaluation of your group's performance

1. Play cassette(s) from last lesson.
2. Look at Powerpoint for Indian Raga with evaluation questions. There are also sheets in the filing cabinet with the same questions on. Stress that these are to aid writing, not to be answered as questions. Each question may need a few sentences written in a paragraph in order to answer it fully. Aim to use as much musical language as possible.
3. play cassette again a few times to aid written work. Written work is to be on A4 lined paper with a decorative border around (as mentioned in last week's plan).

Plenary: Read out/get children to read out good examples.

Follow up:

Mark work again NC levels if possible – Feed back to class and read out good examples.
All work to be put in folders and written on contents page.