

The Banana Rap

Listen and Appraise Step 6

When I'm 64 by The Beatles

Listening

Play the song, find and move to the pulse. Use the on-screen questions (see below) as a focus. Scroll through the questions when you are listening to the song, talk about them after listening. The answers are below.

- Do you like the song?
- What can you hear?
- What is the style of this music?
- How is the song put together?

Some extra listening ideas:

- Perhaps watch a clip of the original on YouTube?
- Listen to 'The Banana Rap' again
- Look for similarities and differences between the songs

Appraising

After listening to the song, answer the on-screen questions, discuss the song and what you can hear in it. Encourage the use of correct musical language when responding.

The detailed answers below will provide you (the teacher) with more than enough information to use flexibly with children of all abilities. You may not use all the information given but it will equip you with the necessary musical knowledge and understanding.

When I'm 64 by The Beatles

Information about the Song

The Beatles were an English rock band from Liverpool, formed in 1960. They consisted of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr. They were the first boy band and are probably the most influential Pop group of all time.

When I'm 64 is a song in which the singer asks his girlfriend if she will still love him when they are old.

Do You Like the Song?

It doesn't matter if you like or don't like a song or a piece of music. Think about the reasons why you do or don't.

What Can You Hear?

Ideas for listening include:

- The vocal line: how many singers? Male/female? *Male solo and male backing vocals.*
- The backing/accompaniment: how many instruments? Which ones? *Clarinets (low sounds from bass clarinet), piano, bass, drums (with brushes) guitar, tubular bells.*
- Which instruments plays the solo? *Clarinet is featured throughout.*
- Is there a hook? Yes: *"Will you still need me, will you still feed me, when I'm 64". Vocal.*
- The texture: is it thick, thin or inbetween? Are there many layers of sound, or just one/two? Are there many voices singing/instruments playing, or just one/two? *A lot of instruments and voices so the texture is quite thick.*
- The tempo: is it fast, slow or inbetween? *Medium, constant tempo.*
- The dynamics: is the music loud, quiet or inbetween? Is it the same throughout or does it vary? *Quite a medium, gentle dynamic throughout.*

What is the Style of this Music?

1. Is it Pop/Rock/Blues/Gospel/Ballad/R&B/Rap/Soul? *This is a 60s Pop song by The Beatles. Can you and the children find other examples of Beatles songs to listen to?*

How is the Song Put Together?

What is the structure/form/shape of the song?

The structure of the song is:

- Intro
- Verse 1
- Bridge
- Verse 2
- Bridge
- Verse 3
- Outro