



Year 3

Descriptive Music



Music can suggest images or action. Composers write descriptive music to tell a story on its own or to support the telling of a story as background music.

Descriptive music can be used to support the story-telling that takes place in a play or in a movie. Often in a play or pantomime, certain characters have musical themes that represent them. Each time their theme is heard, you can expect to see the character.

Descriptive music is used in other settings. Music can be used to set the scene in theme park for a scary ride.



Pieces of music explored

- The Tortoise Song
- Carnival of the Animals by Saint-Saens
 - North Indian Rag
 - Bear Dance
- Sea slugs and Jellyfish song

Vocabulary

Tempo - the speed of the music

Pitch - whether notes are high or low

Rhythm - a pattern of beats

Dynamics - the volume of the music

Timbre - Type of instrument or sound