



Unit 5.1 iJam – iHip Hop



Year: Five (Level 3)
Term: Autumn



Background information for teachers

This workshop focuses on the origin and progression of Hip- Hop as a musical movement. Students will study the basic elements of the genre and develop their sampling and audio editing skills to create their own original Hip-Hop track. As well as using 'GarageBand', other Apps will be introduced so participants can add their own drum rhythms, loops and sampled sounds to their compositions. Students will progress to creating lyrics to rap, speak or sing accompanying their tracks.

Learning Outcomes for the Unit

.With the knowledge they have now gained through levels 1 + 2 of iJam they will now be able to apply it to a new genre. Over the iJam module we will be looking at Hip-Hop. The class will learn the musical characteristics of the genre, as well as new sections of the style, such as hooks. Alongside learning about the music, we will also learn about the history of the genre; compose a rap to beat match their composition and compose in that style.

Key vocabulary

MC	
DJ	
DJ Kool Herc	
Rap	
Nu Skool (New school);	
Old Skool (Old School);	
Synthesisers	
Genre;	
Grand Master Flash	
Sampling	
Hook	

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Learning Session 1	Pupils will be introduced to the history and origins of Hip-Hop music. They will recognise how Hip-Hop is in itself a culture as well as a musical genre, and how it has changed since its beginnings. They will also be able to differentiate between Old Skool and Nu Skool, and the key characteristics of both. This learning session will ascertain students' knowledge of Hip-Hop in addition to recapping elements from Levels 1 and 2.
Learning Session 2	Pupils will learn about sampling and its importance within Hip-Hop music. They will be tested on recreating some classic Hip-Hop parts and expanding their musical performance ability. This learning session involves understanding and applying the use of production techniques, rhythm and pitch through a number of exercises building on knowledge already attained.
Learning Session 3	This session will initiate the final project. Pupils will learn what a musical hook is and then create a Hip-Hop instrumental. Following an established structure, they will be programming drums and creating a musical hook to work alongside the rap they will create in Learning Session 4 and 5.
Learning Session 4	Pupils will learn about writing lyrics. They will understand why so many rappers write about experiences and subjects they are knowledgeable in, rather than a random subject. This session involves a case study of George the Poet and will require students to analyse his lyrics before writing their own to accompany their song. This session has links with literacy as well as music.
Learning Session 5	After writing their rap last learning session, this lesson will be used for the pupils to perform their raps and receive feedback from their classmates. Pupils will use this lesson to improve their lyrics and explore how peer assessment will help better their work.
Learning Session 6	Students will take the raps they performed and record it onto the song. They will learn how to use microphones correctly and why it is an important tool in music production. Previous experience with mixing will help add the finishing touches onto their song, and pupils will be prepared to showcase their work in the next Learning Session.
Learning Session 7	This session will run either as part of a longer half term or a contingency for pupils or classes who have exceeded the lesson plans for the half term. Pupils will be able to showcase their final songs they have been working on. They will understand the value of constructive criticism, and any time remaining will be used to apply that feedback to polish off their work