



Music Curriculum

MUSICAL VOCABULARY BANK

RECEPTION – YEAR 6

At Out of the Ark, we believe a music curriculum should enable children to develop their understanding of **musical concepts**, the **inter-related dimensions** and **key vocabulary** through fun, practical and engaging music-making. This vocabulary bank provides a useful overview of the range of musical words that can be introduced to children and is designed to be used alongside the lesson plans in the **Sparkyard Music Curriculum**. Have fun developing high-quality **musical talk** with the help of this handy vocabulary bank.

Don't forget – each lesson on Sparkyard has a list of key vocabulary (musical and non-musical).



RECEPTION: KEY VOCABULARY

	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 1: MY MUSICAL CLASSROOM	Smooth Spiky	Loud Quiet/Soft Silence	High Low	Long Pulse Rhythm Short	Echo Order Pattern Sound	Fast Slow	Layer	Glass Metal Paper Rub Scrape Shake Tap Timbre Whisper Wood	Action Chant Copy Listen Nursery rhyme Perform Sing/Song Start Stop	Ballet Carol singing Composer Conductor Dance Instrument Lyrics Mood Music/Musician Orchestra Rock 'n' Roll	Cabasa Clave Glockenspiel Rainstick Shaker Tambourine Triangle Wind chime Woodblock
TERM 2: MUSICAL PATTERNS AND PERFORMING	Smooth Spiky	Dynamics Loud Quiet/Soft Silence	High Low Pitch	Beat Long Pulse Rhythm Short	Order Pattern Structure Verse	Fast/Quickly Slow/Slowly			Action Copy Expression Listen Perform/ Performer/ Performance Singer Start Song Stop	Audience Barbershop Conductor Instrument Musical score Notation Sound effect	Clave Drum Glockenspiel Maraca Percussion Tambourine Triangle Woodblock
TERM 3: SOUND STORIES	Smooth Spiky	Loud/Louder Quiet/Quieter Silence	High/Higher Low/Lower Pitch	Long/Longer Short/Shorter	Beginning/ Middle/End Order Pattern Sequence Verse	Fast/Quickly Slow/Slowly	Group Layer Solo	Scrape Shake Tap Timbre	Copy Follow Listen Perform/ Performance Start Stop	Ballet Dance Lyrics Musical score Orchestra Sound effect	Bells Boomwhacker Chime bar Drum Glockenspiel Guiro Krin (log drum) Maraca Percussion Shaker Tambourine Temple blocks

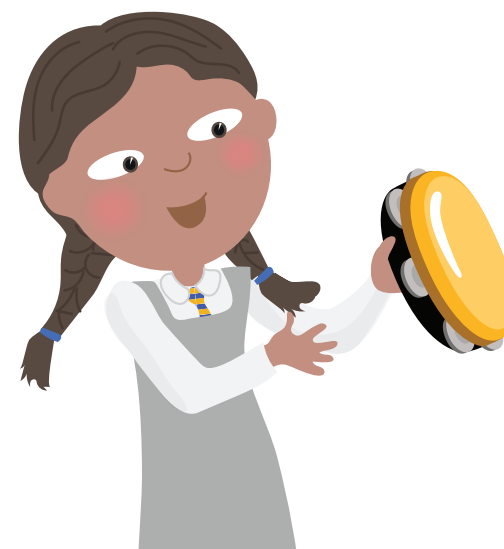


YEAR 1: KEY VOCABULARY

	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 1: MOVE TO THE BEAT – EXPLORING PULSE AND RHYTHM	Smooth Spiky	Dynamics Loud/Louder Quiet/Quieter Soft	High/Higher Low/Lower	Long/Longer Pulse Rhythm Short/Shorter	Call and response Echo Pattern Structure Verse	Fast/Faster Slow/Slower Speed Tempo		Pluck Rub Scrape Shake Slide Tap Timbre	Action Body percussion Copy Start Stop	Conductor Graphic score Instrument Notation	Bassoon Cello Contrabassoon Double bass Drum Horn Oboe Piano Saxophone Serpent Trumpet Trombones Violin + names of classroom percussion instruments
TERM 2: EXPLORING SOUNDS	Smooth Spiky	Dynamics Gently Harder Lightly Loud/Louder/Loudly (<i>f</i>) Quiet/Quieter/Quietly (<i>p</i>) Silence Soft/Softer Strongly Volume	High/Higher Low/Lower Pitch	Duration Long/Longer Pause Repeat Rewind Short/Shorter	Beginning/ Middle/End Motif Order	Fast/Faster Quick/ Quickly Slow/ Slower/ Slowly Slow motion Steady Tempo	Layers of sound Texture	Bang Blow Pluck Rattle Scrape Shake Tap Timbre Tone of voice	Character Lyrics Facial expression Poem Start Stop Stomp Style Tiptoe	Conductor Graphic score Mood Musical score Notation Sound effect	Names of classroom percussion instruments



Y1	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 3: HIGH AND LOW – EXPLORING PITCH	Smooth Spiky	Dynamics Loud/Louder Quiet/Soft Silence Strong Volume	Cuckoo call High/Higher/ Highest Jump Leap Low/Lower/ Lowest Melody Pitch Scale Slide Step Up/Down	Rhythm	Beginning/ Middle/End Order Pattern Repeat Sequence Sound Structure	Fast Speed/ Tempo	Group Solo	Timbre	Audience Copy Lyrics Perform Songwriting	Improvise Graphic score Notation Sound effect	Bass drum Celeste Clarinet Cornet Double bass Flute Glockenspiel Marimba Sarangi Sitar Sousaphone Tabla Trombone Tuba Tuned percussion Xylophone



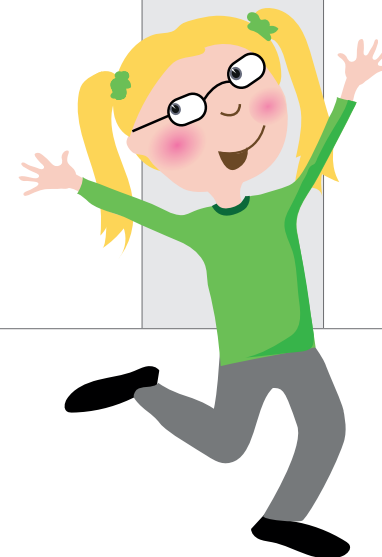
YEAR 2: KEY VOCABULARY

	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 1: TIME TO PLAY – EXPLORING PULSE AND RHYTHMIC PATTERNS		Dynamics Forte (f) Getting louder (Crescendo) Getting quieter (Decrescendo/ Diminuendo) Loud Piano (p) Quiet/Soft Silence Strong	Melody Up/Down	Beat Echo Pattern Pulse Rest Rhythm Steady	Chorus Pattern Repeat Sound Structure Verse	Fast/Faster Slow/Slower Tempo	Musical layers Ostinato Texture Thicker	Bright Harsh Metal/Metallic Scratchy Timbre	Action sequence Copy Mood Shake Start Stop Style Tap Thinking voice	Conductor Disco Graphic notation	Bass drum Hi-hat
TERM 2: MUSICAL MOODS AND PICTURES	Articulation Detached Smooth Spiky Staccato	Dynamics Getting louder (Crescendo) Getting quieter (Decrescendo/ Diminuendo) Loud/Louder Quiet/Quiter Silence Soft Volume	Minor		Call and response Echo Structure	Fast/Faster Largo Lento Slow/Slower Tempo Vivace	Combine Layer Order Solo Texture	Blow Tap Scrape Shake Timbre	Emotion Mood Start Stop	Conductor Improvise Notation	Accordion Bassoon Drums Flute
TERM 3: PATTERNS WITH PITCH – EXPLORING PITCH AND MELODY	Legato Smooth/ Smoothly Spiky/Spikily Staccato	Forte (f) Loud/Louder Piano (p) Silence Quiet/Soft	Ascending Consecutive Descending Down F major High/Higher/ Highest Leap Low/Lower/ Lowest Melody Middle Note names C D E F G A B Pentatonic Pitch Stay the same Scale Step Up	Pulse Rhythm	Call and response Echo Order Pattern	Fast/Faster Slow/Slower	Group Solo	Pluck	Audience Copy Lyrics Mood Perform	Conductor Notation	Double bass Octobass Piccolo



YEAR 3: KEY VOCABULARY

	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 1: HEAR IT! PLAY IT! EXPLORING RHYTHMIC PATTERNS		Dynamics Forte (f) Getting louder (Crescendo) Getting softer (Decrescendo/ Diminuendo) Loud/Louder Piano (p) Quiet/Quieter Silence Soft Strong	Melody	Bar Beat Crotchet Duration Minim Note value Pulse On/Off the beat Quaver Rest Rhythm pattern Semibreve 3 beats in a bar 4 beats in a bar	Call and response Chorus Echo Introduction Instrumental Ostinato Repeat Time signature Verse	Adagio Allegro Fast/Faster Slow/Slower Tempo	Musical layers Ostinato	Metal/Metallic Soft/Hard Timbre Wood/ Wooden	Body percussion Copy Ensemble Leader Listen Solo	Conductor Disco Gamelan Gospel Graphic score Improvise Instrumentation Lyrics Notation Rock 'n' Roll Style Waltz	Bass drum Bamboo flute Cymbal Drum-kit Gong Hi-hat Kick drum Maraca Piano Saxophone Snare drum Tambourine Xylophone
TERM 2: PAINTING PICTURES WITH SOUND	Articulation Detached Legato Slur Smooth Spiky Staccato	Crescendo Decrescendo/ Diminuendo Dynamics Forte (f) Fortissimo (ff) Loud Mezzo piano (mp) Mezzo forte (mf) Piano (p) Pianissimo (pp) Silence Soft	Ascending Descending Pitch	Rhythm	Beginning/ Middle/End Call and response Chorus Repeat Structure	Accelerando Adagio Allegro Fast/Faster/ Quickly Rallentando Slow/ Slower/ Slowly Tempo	Musical layers Overlap Texture	Bright Character Harsh Shrill Timbre Tone	Lyrics Mood Start Stop	Baroque Batucada Conductor Flamenco Graphic score Improvise Instrumentation Romantic period Sound effect Soundtrack Symphonic poem	Accordion Agogo Apito Castanet Cuica Caixa Chinese gong Darbuka Dizi Drums Ganza Guitar Ney Reco-reco Surdo Tambourine Tamborim Triangle Tuba Violin Woodblock



Y3	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 3: SING, PLAY, NOTATE!	Articulation Legato Smooth Spiky Staccato	Dynamics Forte (p) Getting louder (Crescendo) Getting quieter (Decrescendo/ Diminuendo) Loud/Louder Quiet/Quieter Piano (p) Soft	Ascending C major Descending Drone Eb major Harmony High/Higher/ Highest Leap Low/Lower/ Lowest Melody Melodic pattern/motif/ contour/ phrase Minor Pentatonic Pitch Rise Scale Stays the same Step	Crotchet Minim Pulse Quaver Rest Rhythm	Chorus Call and response Order Ostinato Pattern Sequence Verse	Slow Tempo	Duet Harmony Monophonic Ostinato Polyphonic Solo Texture		Audience Encore Ensemble Improvise Listen Perform/ Performer/ Performance Soundscape	Alto Bass Improvise Interlude Intermezzo Neumes Notation Soprano Tenor	



YEAR 4: KEY VOCABULARY

	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 1: PLAYING WITH RHYTHM – PLAYING TOGETHER AND RHYTHMIC STRUCTURES	Articulation Detached Legato Smooth Staccato	Crescendo Decrescendo/ Diminuendo Dynamics Forte (f) Loud Piano (p) Soft	High/Higher Low/Lower Minor	Bar Beat Crotchet Duration Minim Polyrhythm Pulse Quaver Semibreve Rest Rhythm Rhythmic layers Rhythmic motif Time signature 3 beats in a bar $\frac{3}{4}$ 4 beats in a bar $\frac{4}{4}$	Bar Call and response Chorus Middle 8 Ostinato Repeat Verse	Accelerando Adagio Allegro Andante Fast/Faster Lento Moderato Presto Rallentando Slow/Slower Tempo	Ostinato Texture	Timbre	Conductor Copy Leader	Beatbox Graphic score Lyrics Notation Rhythm grid Samba Tonality Triad Waltz	Agogo Apito Caixa Cello Cuica Double bass Ganza Reco reco Surdo Tamborim Viola Violin
TERM 2: MUSICAL CONTRASTS	Articulation Legato Staccato	Crescendo Decrescendo/ Diminuendo Dynamics Forte (f) Loud Mezzo forte (mf) Mezzo piano (mp) Piano (p) Silence Soft	D major D minor G major G minor Key Major Minor Tonality Triad	Rhythm	AB structure Bridge Call and response Chorus Contrast Instrumental Motif Rondo Section Sequence Structure Verse	Accelerando Fast/Quickly Lento Presto Rallentando Slow/Slowly Tempo		Brass Breathy Bright Mellow Metallic Percussion Scratchy Strings Timbre Woodwind	Mood	Conductor Improvise/ Improvisation Orchestral family Sound map Symphonic poem	



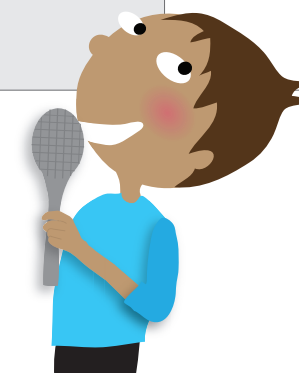
YEAR 4: KEY VOCABULARY

Y4	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 3: MELODY BUILDERS – EXPLORING MELODIES AND SONG STRUCTURES		Crescendo Decrescendo/ Diminuendo Dynamics Forte (<i>f</i>) Fortissimo (<i>ff</i>) Loud Mezzo forte (<i>mf</i>) Mezzo piano (<i>mp</i>) Piano (<i>p</i>) Pianissimo (<i>pp</i>) Soft	Ascending C major Descending High/Higher/ Highest Leap Low/Lower/ Lowest Melody Melodic contour Pentatonic Pitch Raga Scale Step	Bar Beat Crotchet Duration Longer Minim Pulse Quaver Rest Rhythm Rhythmic ostinato Shorter	Bar Bridge Call and response Chorus Cumulative Lyrics Phrase Section Structure Verse	Accelerando Largo Presto Rallentando Tempo	Monophonic Solo Unison		Audience Encore Performer Solo Thinking voice	Aleatoric Bugle call Folk song Graphic notation Plainchant Stave/Staff notation Stave/Staff	



YEAR 5: KEY VOCABULARY

Y5	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 1: RHYTHM BUILDERS – EXPLORING RHYTHMIC LAYERS	Legato Staccato	Crescendo Decrescendo/ Diminuendo Dynamics Forte (<i>f</i>) Fortissimo (<i>ff</i>) Loud/Louder Mezzo forte (<i>mf</i>) Mezzo piano (<i>mp</i>) Piano (<i>p</i>) Pianissimo (<i>pp</i>) Soft/Quieter	Melody	Bar Beat Crotchet Duration Longer Minim Offbeat Polyrhythm Pulse Shorter Quaver Rest Rhythm Rhythmic motif/pattern Syncopated Time signature $\frac{3}{4}$ time $\frac{4}{4}$ time	Bar Call and response Canon Chorus Motif Ostinato Sequence Structure Verse	Fast/Faster Lento Slow/Slower Tempo	Combine Ostinato Dense/Thick Rhythmic layers Sparse/Thin Texture Unison	Aerophones Blow Bow Chordo- phones Idiophones Membrano- phones Pluck Timbre	Audience Conductor Improvise/ Improvisation Performer	Basque dance Broken consort Composer Composers: Bach, Beethoven, Handel, Mozart Elizabethan Funk Graphic score Notation Minuet Minimalist Morris dance National anthem Polka Renaissance Resonator Rhythm grid Rock 'n' Roll Romantic period String Wind	Cittern Drums Lute Recorder Viol
TERM 2: MUSIC AND WORDS	Articulation Legato Pizzicato Staccato	Crescendo Decrescendo/ Diminuendo Dynamics Forte (<i>f</i>) Fortissimo (<i>ff</i>) Piano (<i>p</i>) Pianissimo (<i>pp</i>) Silence Sforzando (<i>sfz</i>)	Descending Major Melody Minor Pitch Scale	Bar Beat Duration Offbeat Percussive Pulse Rhythm Semibreve Syncopated	Bar Call and response Contrast Fine Motif Question and answer Repetition Structure	Accelerando Allegro Andante Fast/Faster Largo Slow/Slower Presto Rallentando Tempo	Dense/Thick Sparse/Thin Melodic accompani- ment Texture	Timbre	Style Improvise/ Improvisation Lyrics	Blues Classical waltz Jazz Graphic score Musical theatre Ragtime Samba Scat Swing jazz Tango Tension and release	Banjo Clarinet Double bass Trumpet Trombone



Y5	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 3: SONG INGREDIENTS – EXPLORING MELODY, HARMONY AND LYRICS		Crescendo Decrescendo/ Diminuendo Dynamics Forte (f) Fortissimo (ff) Mezzo forte (mf) Mezzo piano (mp) Piano (p) Pianissimo (pp)	Ascending Bass line Bass note C major Chord Consonance Descending Dissonance Drone G major Harmony High/Higher/ Highest Interval Intervals: Major/Minor second; Major/Minor third; Perfect fourth/fifth Key Low/Lower/ Lowest Major Melody Minor Octave Overtones Pedal note Pentatonic Pitch Scale/Scalic Tonic/Root note Triad	Bar Beat Rhythm	Bar Canon Loop Round Phrase Repetition Section Structure	Accelerando Allegro Andante Largo Rallentando Tempo Vivace	Unison Harmony Homophon- ic Melodic layers Polyphonic Texture Unison	Timbre	Part Song Lyrics	Barbershop Chanter Chord sequence Composer Country rock Jingle Ledger line Loop pedal Notation Songwriter Stave/Staff Treble clef	Bagpipes



YEAR 6: KEY VOCABULARY

Y6	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 1: WE'VE GOT RHYTHM – RHYTHMIC DEVICES AND STRUCTURE	Accent Articulation	Crescendo Decrescendo/ Diminuendo Dynamics Forte (f) Loud Mezzo forte (mf) Mezzo piano (mp) Piano (p) Soft	Pitch	Beat Bar Compound time Crotchet Offbeat Polyrhythm Pulse Quaver Rest Rhythm Rhythmic motif/pattern Son clave Straight rhythm Syncopated Time signature Triplet $\frac{2}{4}$ time $\frac{4}{4}$ time $\frac{6}{8}$ time	Bar Binary form Call and response Canon Chorus Instrumental break Introduction Ostinato Outro Phrase Retrograde Structure (e.g. AB; ABA) Verse	Tempo	Dense/Thick Layers of sound Ostinato Solo Sparse/Thin Texture	Timbre	Body percussion Diction Expression Improvise Perform/ Performer/ Performance Solo	Baroque Batucada Culture Dance suite Gigue Hip-hop Jig Konnakol Master drummer Notation Rap Samba Style Tango Tradition	Agogo Cabasa Caixa Cow bell Djembe Dundun drum Ganza Guiro Repinique Shaker Surdo Talking drum Tamborim Woodblock
	Articulation Legato Staccato	Crescendo Decrescendo/ Diminuendo Dynamics Forte (f) Fortissimo (ff) Piano (p) Sforzando (sfz)	Ascending Consonant Descending Discord Dissonant Harmony Higher Interval Intervals: second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh Lower Major Melody Melodic contour Minor Octave Pentatonic Pitch Scale Semitone	Crotchet Dotted minim Pause Quaver Sustained notes $\frac{3}{4}$ time	Leitmotif Motif Ostinato Ternary	Accelerando Allegro Andante Largo Presto Rallentando Tempo	Harmony Ostinato Texture	Timbre	Audience Character Communicate Diction Duet Conductor Expression Gesture Improvisation Lyrics Performer Solo	Choreography Chorus songs Light opera Mickey Mousing Musical theatre Notation Orchestra pit Romantic period Sound effect Soundtrack Tension and release Through- composed	



Y6	ARTICULATION	DYNAMICS	PITCH	RHYTHM/ DURATION	STRUCTURE	TEMPO	TEXTURE	TIMBRE	SINGING & PERFORMING	ADDITIONAL MUSICAL WORDS	INSTRUMENT NAMES
TERM 3: CELEBRATING SONGS	Articulation	Crescendo (cresc.) Dynamics Forte (<i>f</i>) Fortissimo (<i>ff</i>) Mezzo forte (<i>mf</i>) Piano (<i>p</i>)	Ascending Bass line C major Chord Chromatic Descending Harmony High/Higher/ Highest Key Leap Low/Lower/ Lowest Major Melody/ Melodic Minor Pentatonic Pitch Root Scale Semitone Step Tonality Tonic Triad	Dotted minim Rest Rhythm Syncopated	12-bar blues Bridge Call and response Chord sequence/ progression Chorus Coda Fade Hook Instrumental Introduction Middle 8 Ostinato Outro Phrase Refrain Repetition Riff Sequence Structure Verse	Accelerando Allegro Fast/Faster Largo Rallentando Slow/Slower Tempo	Harmony Ostinato Texture Unison	Timbre	Communicate Lyrics	Aria Blues Church bells Composer Conductor Fanfare Gamelan Opera Peal Pop Programme notes Protest song Romantic period Style Westminster Quarters	Guitar

