Year 4: Rock and Roll

Musical style: Rock and Roll

Rock and roll was created in America in the 1950s after the war and was made to depict happiness and a new life. The name comes from the phrase 'rocking and rolling' which was used by mariners to explain the movement of a ship, which influenced the dance steps.

Rock and roll stems from jazz, gospel and blues music and uses the blues structure and chords. It often has a fast tempo with strong vocals, which may use screaming and shouting. Rock and roll formed the basis of our modern day rock music.

Vocabulary

Bass line	The lowest part of the music, played by a bass or bass guitar in rock and roll.
Walking bass	A bass line that moves step by step using pitches that are next to each other.
Notation	The way that music is written so that others can play it.
In time	Playing or singing at the same speed as the music.

Hand jive	
A rock and roll dance where you move your hands a lot!	

In tune	Singing or playing with the correct pitch.
Tempo	The speed or pace of the music. It can change throughout a piece of music.
Dynamics	The volume of the notes. This often changes throughout a piece of music.
Pitch	How high or low a note sounds.

Instruments