



Music Vocabulary Progression

The development of subject vocabulary is cumulative, building on previous knowledge. This list provides core vocabulary which teachers can extend in lessons as they see appropriate. Many untuned percussion instruments are known by more than one name; the names listed below are the ones we commonly use.

EYFS

drum shaker cymbal triangle tambourine jingle bells percussion beater body percussion	steady beat high (sounds) low (sounds) quiet loud fast slow	song tune play listen perform audience applause
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Year 1

untuned percussion claves cabasa maracas woodblock jingle stick	rhythm long (sounds) short (sounds) pulse pitch higher lower tempo faster slower	graphic notation symbols sequence
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Year 2

tuned percussion chime bars Boomwhackers two-tone block clikit guiro	timbre sound quality structure melody	repeat layers/layering call and response compose solo
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2021-22 Yr1/2 African drumming will include related vocabulary.

Year 3

Glockenspiel (metal bars) Xylophone (wooden bars) Indian bells wooden agogo	dynamics crescendo (getting louder) diminuendo (getting quieter) texture	composer phrase chant ostinato drone melody improvise composition
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