

KS2 Weekly Music Menu Ideas (Autumn Term)

The idea with the weekly menu is that it gives teachers some ideas of short activities that they could do with their class each week. There are six activities per week and each one only lasts a few minutes. The idea is that in doing these activities, you would be teaching roughly 45 mins – one hour or music each week. Ideally you would teach some of them in one assigned 30-45 min session and then possibly repeat a few activities for a few minutes at various other points during the week. In addition, it would be great to include a weekly singing session. Some activities are repeated on multiple weeks, but there is no reason why you can't repeat others (or miss some out). Try them all and then see which ones you think work best!

Many of these activities have been taken from the Primary Music resource created by the Benedetti Foundation. The full resource can be found here and is laid out as a complete scheme of 10 lessons:

[Teaching Primary Music KS2 Age 7-11: 12 Lesson Plans and Resources for Class Teachers by Benedetti Foundation - issuu](#)

I have supplemented this resource with other activities from various other providers and you can find more songs and activities here:

- **Ex Cathedra** Singing Playgrounds: [Singing Playgrounds® @home | singingplaygrounds.co.uk](#)
- **NYCOS**: [Ages 7 Up | NYCOS](#)
- **DASP Music** created resources: [Year 3 & 4 warm ups \(daspmusic.co.uk\)](#)

In addition, you may like to explore:

- **10-15 min singing sessions by Voices Foundation and Sing up** (collated by DASP Music here): [KS2 10-15 min sings \(daspmusic.co.uk\)](#) - I would recommend these for weekly singing sessions. They are really excellent!
- **BBC Ten Pieces**: [All 40 pieces - BBC Teach](#) – really good 5-10 min films about each piece plus films of performances of the pieces.
- **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra** produced some excellent FREE 20-30 min programmes based on each family of orchestral instruments – they include performances, talking and body percussion interactive bits. You need to sign up to access it, but it's still available and it's still free: [Explore the Orchestra - Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra \(bsolive.com\)](#)
- **Charanga** – new 'Listen and Respond' resource which might be good for some quick and easy 'active listening'
- **Model Music Curriculum playlist on spotify** – someone has put this spotify playlist together based on the pieces recommended by the new model music curriculum. Might be useful for playing as children come into assembly? [Spotify – Model music curriculum](#)

- **Ukulele** – for anyone wanting to do a scheme of work based on ukuleles, this could be useful: [Ukulele Rocks! ::==={o |}](#). There is also this unit of work created by Soundstorm, which works as a whole-class ukulele scheme: <https://soundstorm-music.org.uk/ukulele/>
- **Recorder Scheme of Work** – This is DASP Music’s new recorder scheme of work. It will be 10 lessons aimed at year 3 complete beginners. As the teacher you can learn alongside the children. You just click and play! [Recorder Lessons \(daspmusic.co.uk\)](#)

About the Musical Menu

This weekly menu is not a completely progressive scheme of work – it is more of a quick and easy way to get some musical activities going in your classroom post-covid, especially for those who are less confident at doing musical activities. I hope that the personal nature of the videos means that they are engaging for the children to watch and will also **not** require you to do any preparation in advance. The videos should all run each activity themselves without very much involvement from the class teacher. The hope would be that as you progress through the weeks, when various activities are repeated, you might start to feel confident to lead some of the activities yourself without the aid of the video (or the children could also take turns to lead!). I also hope that by watching and joining in with the videos with the children, you might start to pick up some ideas for teaching techniques which you could use in the future (e.g ‘ready, off we go’ etc).

Whilst it’s not a completely progressive unit of work, the menu does however follow a plan whereby it moves through exploring the concept of pulse, beat and rhythm and starts to touch on notation and composition/improvisation. It also develops skills in performing more than one part at once, but in rhythm and in pitch. There are a variety of appropriate songs, rounds and clapping games included too. It is really important that the children are encouraged to develop their sense of playing in time and singing in tune before they move onto more complex activities. Whilst the menu is there for you to mix and match, it’s probably worth moving roughly through the weeks in order (although doing absolutely every activity is not necessary). Some of the activities have the option to use non-tuned percussion instruments, but most just use body percussion.

Week	Activity mainly based on pulse/rhythm and listening/responding					Singing
Week 1	Hello Everyone https://vimeo.com/508398351 (This is a good starter song)	The Name Game https://vimeo.com/508399548 (Another good warmup rhyme)	Rubber Chicken Rubber Chicken - YouTube (A warm-up to wake up a class using counting with a regular pulse. When you are familiar	Hip Hop I say hip, you say hop - YouTube (A call and response warm up rhyme to keep a beat. When	Paint Teaching Primary Music Age 4-7 Paint - YouTube (a listening and responding activity to encourage	Step back https://vimeo.com/508399406 (A short call and response song)

			with it, you could ask a child to lead it).	you are familiar with it, a child could lead it).	response to gentle music. Try painting different things – your name, what you had for lunch etc!) Music on it's own here: Spiegel im Spiegel - YouTube	
Week 2	<p>Hello Everyone https://vimeo.com/508398351</p> <p>(This is a good starter song)</p>	<p>Hip Hop I say hip, you say hop - YouTube</p> <p>(A call and response warm up rhyme to keep a beat. When you are familiar with it, a child could lead it).</p>	<p>Pulse is a steady beat https://vimeo.com/508398872</p> <p>(A rhyme to reinforce the concept of pulse)</p>	<p>Tideo https://vimeo.com/508399576</p> <p>(a simple clapping song – could develop this to sing it whilst clapping with partners)</p>	<p>Matching movement to sounds https://vimeo.com/508399048</p>	<p>First you make your fingers click First you make your fingers click - YouTube</p> <p>(A song using body percussion sounds and internalisation of singing)</p>
Week 3	<p>HELLO https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXQUZkcOfQs&feature=emb_logo</p> <p>(A rhythmic warm-up rhyme)</p>	<p>Rubber Chicken Rubber Chicken - YouTube</p> <p>(A warm-up to wake up a class using counting with a regular pulse. When you are familiar with it, you could ask a child to lead it).</p>	<p>Copy cat Teaching Primary Music KS1 (Age 4-7) Copycat on Vimeo</p> <p>(A simple call and response rhyme, whilst physically keeping the pulse. This rhyme is developed later in the term).</p>	<p>Moving through the crowd https://vimeo.com/508399144</p> <p>(A rhythmic rhyme, keeping the pulse)</p>	<p>March Listen to the Radetzky March by Strauss and get the children to March in time to it. They could also do other actions in time to it. Radetzky March - Johann Strauss Sr - YouTube</p>	<p>Dipidu https://youtu.be/4j5jNu3h14</p> <p>A song introducing the concept of 2 and 3 beats in a bar (unconsciously!).</p>

<p>Week 4</p>	<p>Hip Hop I say hip, you say hop - YouTube</p> <p>(A call and response warm up rhyme to keep a beat. When you are familiar with it, a child could lead it).</p>	<p>Beat Detective Beat Detective - YouTube</p> <p>Watch the video to find out how to play.</p> <p>Play this piece of music: Georges Bizet - "Les Toreadors" from Carmen Suite No. 1 - YouTube</p>	<p>Pulse is a steady beat https://vimeo.com/508398872</p> <p>(A rhyme to reinforce the concept of pulse)</p>	<p>Moving through the crowd https://vimeo.com/508399144</p> <p>(A rhythmic rhyme, keeping the pulse)</p>	<p>Tideo https://vimeo.com/508399576</p> <p>(a simple clapping song – could develop this to sing it whilst clapping with partners)</p>	<p>Donkeys are in love with carrots Donkeys Are in Love With Carrots - Sing & Smile (Monday Week 4), ages 5 to 8 - YouTube</p> <p>A simple song, with actions to keep the pulse. Once you are familiar with it, you could try it as a round (with each part coming in after one line).</p>
<p>Week 5</p>	<p>Hey You Clappers Hey you clappers warm-up - YouTube</p> <p>A fun rhythmic warm-up</p>	<p>Moving to a pulse https://vimeo.com/508399078</p> <p>(An activity which embeds the idea of an internal pulse)</p>	<p>Ha hey woah https://vimeo.com/508398252</p> <p>(A fun warmup/concentration game)</p>	<p>Pulse is a steady beat (Do this one before the next video) https://vimeo.com/508398872</p> <p>(A rhyme to reinforce the concept of pulse)</p>	<p>Tap the pulse with Pulse is a Steady Beat Teaching Primary Music KS2 (Age 7-11) Tap the Pulse with Pulse is a Steady Beat on Vimeo</p>	<p>Clap Clap Turnaround Singing Playgrounds® @home singingplaygrounds.co.uk</p> <p>Scroll down to find <i>Clap Clap Turn Around Teaching</i> video and then when you are confident, sing along with the <i>Clap Clap Turnaround Interactive</i> video</p>

Week 6	<p>Hip Hop I say hip, you say hop - YouTube</p> <p>(A call and response warm up rhyme to keep a beat. When you are familiar with it, a child could lead it).</p>	<p>Engine Engine Teaching Primary Music KS2 (Age 7-11) Engine, Engine on Vimeo</p> <p>A simple rhyme that will be used for development work with pulse/rhythm later in the term.</p>	<p>Engine Engine Development</p> <p>Once you have mastered the rhyme, try walking on the pulse whilst saying the rhyme in time. Then try standing still and clapping the rhythm of the words. Lastly, try walking the pulse, whilst clapping the rhythm of the words (If this is too tricky, get half the class to do each at the same time).</p>	<p>Copy cat Teaching Primary Music KS1 (Age 4-7) Copycat on Vimeo (a revision of copy cat rhyme)</p> <p>Copy cat part 2 (rhythm/pulse) https://vimeo.com/508397967 (A development of the rhyme Copy cat)</p>	<p>Little liza jane https://vimeo.com/508399013</p> <p>A fun clapping song. The video above teaches the song slowly.</p> <p>If you want to add the clapping with a partner, this video below will teach you (from 10:41 onwards): https://youtu.be/s0GRfrtTP5c?t=641</p>	<p>Bala pata zoom https://youtu.be/z42w0xuelQ4?t=461</p> <p>A song with body percussion</p>
Week 7	<p>HELLO https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXQUZkcOfQs&feature=emb_logo</p> <p>(A rhythmic warm-up rhyme)</p>	<p>Engine Engine tap the pulse Teaching Primary Music KS2 (Age 7-11) Tap the Pulse with Engine, Engine on Vimeo</p> <p>Reinforcing the difference between pulse and rhythm.</p>	<p>Don't clap this one back (aka Poisonous Rhythm) https://vimeo.com/508398006</p> <p>(A listening and copying rhythm game. You could get children to lead this activity)</p>	<p>Grandpa Ted https://vimeo.com/508398217</p> <p>A rhyme which can be performed in layers together.</p>	<p>Druminoes https://vimeo.com/508398036</p> <p>A rhythmic game</p>	<p>A Uni Singing Playgrounds® @home singingplaygrounds.co.uk</p> <p>Scroll down to find the A Uni Teaching video</p>
Week 8	<p>Up Shake Shakety Shake Up shake shakety shake warm-up - YouTube</p>	<p>Call and response Teaching Primary Music KS2 (Age 7-11) Call & Response on Vimeo</p>	<p>Body drum kit https://vimeo.com/508397768</p>	<p>Grandpa Ted part 2 Teaching Primary Music KS2 (Age 7-11) Grandpa</p>	<p>Druminoes https://vimeo.com/508398036</p> <p>A rhythmic game</p>	<p>Mango Mango Mango mango - YouTube</p>

	A fun physical and rhythmic warmup	Rhythmic call and reponse activity. The children could lead this for each other.	Activity using body percussion to make a drum-kit	Ted, Part Two on Vimeo A development of the Grandpa Ted Rhyme, performing it as a round.		A fun song in several layers. Could be performed as a round too.
Week 9	Hey You Clappers Hey you clappers warm-up - YouTube A fun physical and rhythmic warmup	Don't clap this one back (aka Poisonous Rhythm) https://vimeo.com/508398006 (A listening and copying rhythm game. You could get children to lead this activity)	Tempo https://vimeo.com/508398981 A rhyme about Tempo. Listen and learn the rhyme and then practise it at different speeds (varying the tempo). Tempo tap the pulse Teaching Primary Music KS2 (Age 7-11) Tap the Pulse with Hearts on Vimeo	Engine Engine (recap) Teaching Primary Music KS2 (Age 7-11) Engine, Engine on Vimeo Engine Engine part 3 (tete ta) https://vimeo.com/508399271 (make sure you revise the rhyme before doing the part 3 video)	Samba Rhythms https://vimeo.com/508399364 Creating samba rhythms using body percussion. You could eventually layer these two rhythms together. You could also move the rhythms onto percussion instruments.	Everybody say Hi Hi Singing Playgrounds® @home singingplaygrounds.co.uk Scroll down to find <i>Everybody say Hi Hi Teaching</i> video and then when you are confident, sing along with the <i>Everybody say Hi Hi Interactive</i> video
Week 10	Up Shake Shakety Shake Up shake shakety shake warm-up - YouTube A fun physical and rhythmic warmup	Don't clap this one back (aka Poisonous Rhythm) https://vimeo.com/508398006 (A listening and copying rhythm game. You could get children to lead this activity)	Coca cola rhyme https://vimeo.com/508397906 Coca cola rhyme (with tete ta notation) https://vimeo.com/508397942 -	Ta and Te te Call and response Ta and TeTe call and response - YouTube	Creating body percussion rhythms https://vimeo.com/508397790 Composing activity using body percussion rhythms	We've got the power Singing Playgrounds® @home singingplaygrounds.co.uk Scroll down to find <i>We've got the Power Teaching</i> video and then when you are

						confident, sing along with the <i>We've got the Power Interactive</i> video
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