



Dear Educator,

This file offers views of some of the worksheets in our “**Musical Instruments**” thematic unit. The cover for an eWorkbook is shown followed by the preview pages.

The “**Musical Instruments**” unit offers **18 pages**.

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Musical Instruments



MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Musical Qualities of Sound

It is helpful to understand the qualities of sound musical instruments produce. The **pitch** of musical sound is how high or how low the sound is, relative to other sounds. We say that the call of a bird has a higher pitch than the growl of a lion. We say that a note from a violin has a higher pitch than a note from a cello.

The **timbre** of a sound is the quality of the tone produced by the instrument. For example, when we play two different instruments at the same pitch (the same note on the scale) and the same loudness, we get different timbres from the sounds. The quality of the sound coming from a guitar, at a certain pitch and loudness, will be different from that of a piano.



As musical instruments developed, musicians learned to play with **melody**, **harmony**, and **rhythm**. Melody is the arrangement of sounds into an agreeable succession. Melody is the characteristic of music you employ when you hum or whistle a tune to remember “how it goes.” Rhythm is the pattern of the beat in the music. Rhythm is what you use when you tap your toe “in time” to a song, or clap your hands to the beat of music.

Harmony is the combination of sounds you use to make the music sound more full. Harmony is what you use when you play the melody with one hand on the piano, and play a chord to go with it with the other hand at the same time. Also, two or more musicians are said to have harmony when their parts go together to sound pleasing.

Select one of the words from the list. Write a sentence or more about it..



pitch **timbre** **melody** **rhythm** **harmony**

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Solo Performance with Musical Instruments

Creating music by playing one instrument, or leading the music while accompanied by other players, is called solo performance. Solo performance is very enjoyable to hear. It highlights the musical gift of one person. Today we might hear a musician give a solo performance at a special event called a recital.

Solo performance may have begun in prehistory, with the earliest humans. We can imagine early humans gathered around a fire, listening to one person playing a flute made of bone. Later, ancient civilizations like the Babylonians, Sumerians, Egyptians, Hebrews, Greeks and Romans show people playing music in their artwork and writings.

We see that popular instruments for performing solo in antiquity were lutes, harps, lyres, and flutes. We can trace through writings from these cultures that musicians entertained rulers and other important people.

In modern times, we enjoy solo musicians with almost any instrument. We might enjoy a guitarist, a harpist, a trumpeter, a violinist, or a pianist at a concert, outdoor market, or at home.

Color the picture of the musician.

Look up the definition of the word below, and write it on the lines.

antiquity _____



MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Percussion Criss Cross

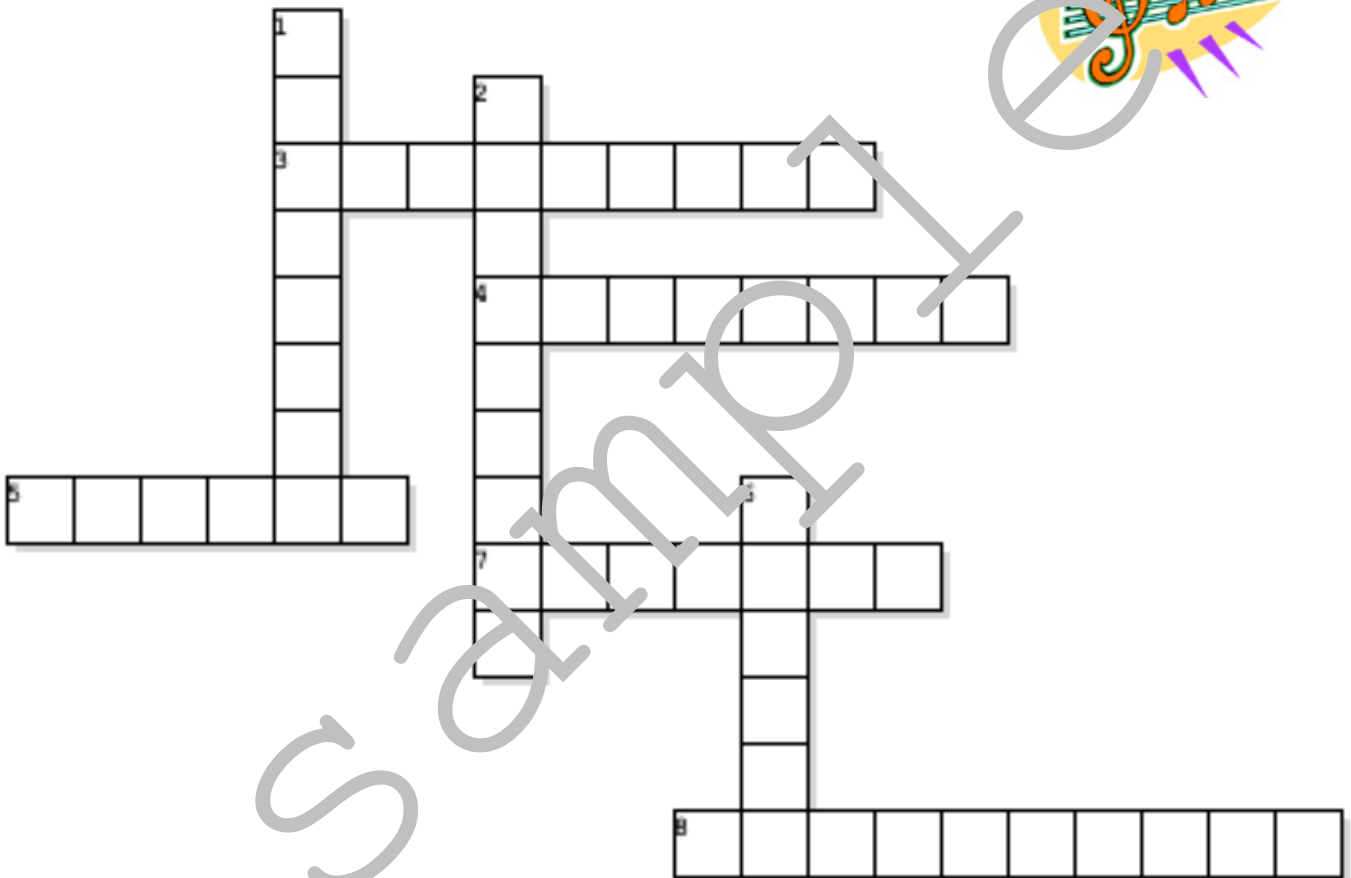
Can you fit these words into the criss cross?
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

idiophone
woodblock

percussion
triangle

dulcimer
cymbals

rattle
chimes



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