

Year 4 Music Assessment: The World of Instruments

Learning objective: To identify, classify, and describe a variety of musical instruments and how they produce sound.

Read each question carefully and write your answers in the spaces provided. Ensure you use musical terminology where appropriate.

Max the monkey is helping his friends organise their musical parade. He notices that every instrument makes sound in a different way. Some need to be plucked or bowed, some need a sharp breath of air, and others require a steady beat to keep the rhythm. Zara the zebra is busy painting patterns on the drum skins, while Pip the caterpillar is curious about why the flute sounds so much higher than the deep, rumbling tuba.

Word bank: Percussion · String · Woodwind · Brass · Vibration · Pitch · Volume · Resonance

1. 1. Name one instrument that belongs to the 'String' family and explain how you make it produce a sound. (2 marks)

2. 2. Max says that all sound starts with a 'vibration'. Using an example, explain what this means. (2 marks)

3. 3. Sort these instruments into their correct families: Flute, Violin, Trumpet, Snare Drum. (4 marks)

4. 4. Why does a tuba make a much lower sound than a piccolo? Refer to the size of the instrument in your answer. (3 marks)

5. 5. Explain the difference between 'pitch' and 'volume'. Give an example of how you might change both on a musical instrument. (4 marks)

6. 6. Imagine you are designing a brand new instrument for the BookFlik band. Describe what it looks like, which family it belongs to, and how a musician would play it. Explain why your instrument would be a good addition to the band's performance. (5 marks)

7. 7. If a trumpet costs £120 and a violin costs £150, how much would it cost for the school to buy one of each? (2 marks)

8. 8. Why is a drum considered a percussion instrument? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw your original instrument from Question 6 in the box below. Label the parts that vibrate to create the sound.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Write a short sentence explaining how a musician changes the pitch on a brass instrument compared to a woodwind instrument.