

# Max’s Musical Elements Word Mat

Learning objective: To define and identify the key musical elements required for composition and performance in Grade 3.

## Key Vocabulary

Use this vocabulary mat to help you describe the sounds you hear. The terms are categorized by the 'Dimensions of Music' to help you build your own musical masterpieces.

|                                                         |                                                          |                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Pulse</b> The steady, underlying heartbeat of th...  | <b>Rhythm</b> The pattern of short and long notes ...    | <b>Tempo</b> The speed of the music (e.g., fast, sl...  |
| <b>Pitch</b> How high or low a sound is.                | <b>Dynamics</b> How loud or quiet the music is.          | <b>Texture</b> The number of layers of sound occu...    |
| <b>Timbre</b> The unique 'color' or quality of a sou... | <b>Duration</b> How long a single note or sound la...    | <b>Ostinato</b> A short, repeated musical pattern.      |
| <b>Unison</b> When everyone sings or plays the e...     | <b>Staccato</b> A style of playing notes in a short, ... | <b>Legato</b> A style of playing notes smoothly and...  |
| <b>Crescendo</b> When the music gradually gets l...     | <b>Diminuendo</b> When the music gradually gets...       | <b>Melody</b> The main tune of the piece, often cr...   |
| <b>Explain why a c...</b>                               | <b>Compare and con...</b>                                | <b>Justify your ans...</b> If you were writing a son... |
| <b>What might happ...</b>                               | <b>If you bought a ti...</b>                             | <b>Evaluate the diffe...</b>                            |