



Cross Curricular Links Through Singing

Music is a National Curriculum subject and one that has a National Framework in the form of the National Plan for Music Education (NPME) therefore all schools should be exploring this subject on a regular basis within curriculum time, as well as through extra-curricular means. However, we understand the demands on schools, especially when it comes to the importance placed on core subjects such as Maths and English and the pressures this can place on the time allocated to the other subjects in the timetable. But we must remember that our children in Gloucestershire need to have a **'broad and balanced curriculum'** as quoted by Mark Phillips Senior HMI for Ofsted at the Westminster Forum in the 'Future of Music Education in England' conference last July. Whether you are a school who has a music co-ordinator who teaches music to all year groups as a discreet subject or whether every teacher in the school is responsible for teaching music, you can make singing a fantastic tool in it's own right to enhance the learning objectives of your lessons no matter what the subject matter.

How many of us can recall something we were taught in a certain subject at school because we were taught it through song? Whether it be singing through the colours of the rainbow; multiplication through the wonderful 'Inchworm' song by Danny Kaye featured in the Hans Christian Anderson film; learning French vocabulary through quirky, catchy tunes; or a song to help you remember key dates for your history exam...these songs, and therefore their embedded facts, are with you for life! Magic!

Not only is singing a fun, engaging, inclusive and uplifting activity for pupils but it adds life and sparkle to any subject or topic and can revive a flagging class when you need them to be at their most engaged!

What resources are there on the market that promote cross-curricular singing?

Sing Up

Sing Up has an enormous online song bank that could help you to shape your music curriculum and/or enable you to integrate singing throughout your curriculum:

'Membership includes access to over 800 fantastic songs, from pop to classical, specially arranged to promote good vocal health in young voices. Our wide range of resources and songs are designed to help you include singing as an aid to cross-curricular learning in the classroom or to act as a complete foundation for singing and music across the school.'

Sing Up website: <https://www.singup.org/about-sing-up/>

Display Songs by...	
Age	▼
Topic	▼
Subject	▼
Style	▼
Song Type	▼
Scoring	▼
Music Topics	▼
SEN	▼

You can search the song library in various different ways, as you can see from the picture. Select your topic i.e. 'Space' or subject area i.e. Maths and up will come all the relevant songs for those areas. The other search areas allow you to choose the style if you are in a rock mood or you fancy more of a folk style! It also has an SEN category to help you ensure you are catering for all needs in your classroom. Sing Up songs are always selected for the appropriate age range and therefore you can ensure the pieces you sing will sit comfortably in the vocal range for those children, without you even having to think about it!

Once you select a song, you can choose to listen to a preview and then select from various track formats to suit your aims – maybe you just want to sing along with the performance track initially before learning the melody on it's own. Maybe then add some harmony for more musical interest. Maybe choose a slower speed track to aid the learning process!

There are also scores to choose from; teaching guides to give you some hints and tips and videos for you to watch of the song. When you are a member you also get the lyrics for your whiteboard!

The screenshot shows a web interface for song resources. At the top right, there are buttons for 'ADD TO PLAYLIST' and 'LYRICS/WHITEBOARD', with the latter circled in red. Below this is a table with columns for 'STATUS', 'PREVIEW', 'SONG TITLE (click to stream)', and 'DATE DOWNLOADED'. The table lists several tracks, each with a 'DOWNLOAD' button and a play icon. A red arrow points to the fourth track: '60 minutes (vocal guide track - harmony 2)'. Below the table, there are tabs for 'ABOUT', 'SCORES', 'TEACHING GUIDES', and 'VIDEOS', with 'SCORES' highlighted in a red box. A red arrow points to the 'SCORES' tab. Below the tabs, there is a section with details: 'Age 9-11', 'Subject Mathematics, Music, Physical education, PSHE & Citizenship', 'Song Type Warm-up', and 'Scoring A cappella, Guitar chords, Piano accompaniment, Unison (optional parts)'.

STATUS	PREVIEW	SONG TITLE (click to stream)	DATE DOWNLOADED
DOWNLOAD	▶	60 minutes (performance track)	
DOWNLOAD	▶	60 minutes (vocal guide track - melody)	
DOWNLOAD	▶	60 minutes (vocal guide track - harmony 1)	
DOWNLOAD	▶	60 minutes (vocal guide track - harmony 2)	
DOWNLOAD	▶	60 minutes (echo track - melody)	
DOWNLOAD	▶	60 minutes (echo track - melody, slower version)	
DOWNLOAD	▶	60 minutes (echo track - harmony 1)	
DOWNLOAD	▶	60 minutes (echo track - harmony 1, slower version)	
DOWNLOAD	▶	60 minutes (echo track - harmony 2)	
DOWNLOAD	▶	60 minutes (echo track - harmony 2, slower version)	

ABOUT SCORES TEACHING GUIDES VIDEOS

Age 9-11

Subject [Mathematics](#), [Music](#), [Physical education](#), [PSHE & Citizenship](#)

Song Type [Warm-up](#)

Scoring [A cappella](#), [Guitar chords](#), [Piano accompaniment](#), [Unison \(optional parts\)](#)

To gain access to the song bank and have a look around the resources simply sign up as a 'Sing Up Friend' and get **10 free songs!**

<https://www.singup.org/registration/join/stage-1-friend/?ansbfrlinkbutton>

Out of the Ark

Out of the Ark produce a range of books, CD's and online, interactive resources and tracks to help you explore singing through various different curriculum areas for Primary and into KS3 for some resources.

*'What better way for children to absorb information than through song? Our **curriculum songbooks** linked to key topics as diverse as World War II, the French language, Maths and Minibeasts, are an ideal way of livening up the curriculum in your classroom and providing you with **educational songs** that will help to supplement a creative curriculum.'*

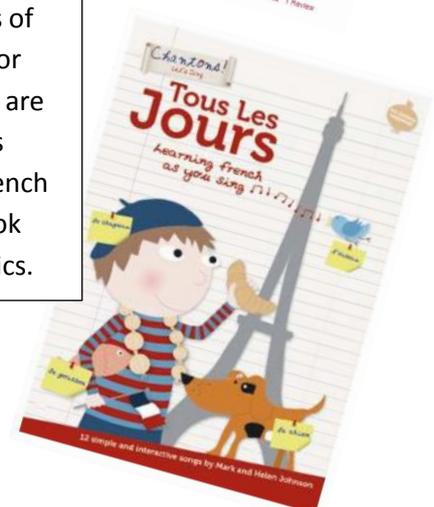
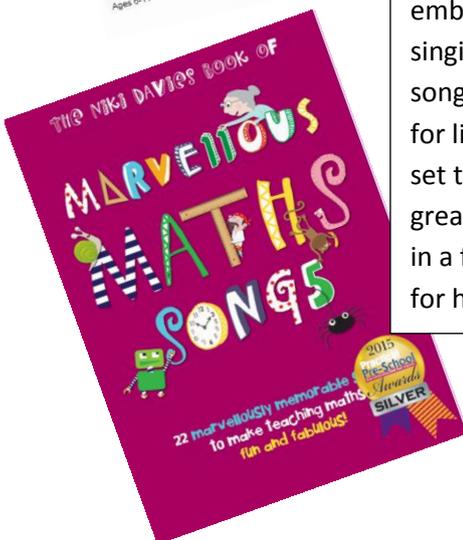
Out of the Ark website: <http://www.outoftheark.co.uk/products/curriculum-songbooks/>

Lyrics automatically synchronize with the music
Sing with backing tracks or with vocals
Plain or bespoke backgrounds
Pause, skip and repeat tracks
Printable nativity & musical resources
Instant access to stream or download your songs
Extractable MP3s, scores and printable lyrics
Multiple harmony options (where available)
Create an expandable library of Out of the Ark songs
Adaptable playlists

Out of the Ark's 'Words on Screen 2', which is accessible for most of their songs, gives you access to the features in the picture – making it easy and interactive to use with your classes or in assemblies.



Explore the resources available that help to embed literacy and numeracy skills through singing. The books are either collections of songs that explore age relevant themes or for literacy they also feature stories that are set to music. The 'Tous Les Jours' book is great for helping 7-11 year olds learn French in a fun way! 'This is Me' is a unique book for helping children to explore PSHE topics.



Music Express

Music Express offers a complete scheme of work for Music and has a song bank with 400 songs. Here is a link to their cross-curricular summary:

<https://resources.collins.co.uk/Wesbite%20images/MusicExpress/Music%20Express%20Cross-curricular%20document.pdf>

Here is an example of a page from that document:

Music Express Age 6-7: A cross-curricular summary

OURSELVES

Subject Link: English

Cross-curricular themes and activities:

- Our feelings, including feeling 'blue'
- Likes and dislikes
- How pets communicate their feelings without words

Links to English:

- Vocal sounds, eg yummmm, ahhhh
- Discussing the poem *I like*, by Maureen Hanke
- Building expressive vocabulary, relating to mood and feelings



TOYS

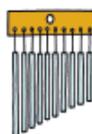
Subject Link: PSHE

Cross-curricular themes and activities:

- Toys that move
- Counting four beats
- Using descriptive words and inventing actions to describe what toys do, eg bounce, stomp, splat
- Slowing down and speeding up with changes in gradient – uphill and downhill

Links to PSHE:

- Riding a scooter
- The world around us – toys and games



OUR LAND

Subject Link: Geography

Cross-curricular themes and activities:

- Myths from Great Britain and Northern Ireland: The Loch Ness monster [Scotland]; Giant's Causeway [Northern Ireland]; King Arthur's Knights [Wales]; Robin Hood [England]
- Water and Ice
- Creating artwork relating to the myths and countries

Links to Geography:

- Locating Great Britain and Northern Ireland on a map
- Different landscapes: sea, lake, forest, mountains

OUR BODIES

Subject Link: PE

Cross-curricular themes and activities:

- Birthdays and birthday parties
- Miming actions, eg eating cake, blowing out candles
- Growing old

Links to PE:

- Responding to music with whole body actions and dance
- Moving as a child, parent, and grandparent
- Throwing, bouncing, and twisting a ball

ANIMALS

Subject Link: PE

Cross-curricular themes and activities:

- Animal sounds and movements
- In the jungle
- Interacting with others
- Representing travelling motions graphically

Links to PE:

- Warming up the body to music
- Moving as different animals

NUMBER

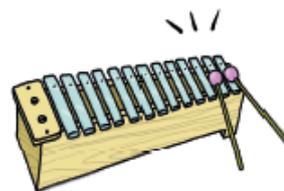
Subject Link: Maths

Cross-curricular themes and activities:

- Performing actions in a song
- Performing a sequence of movements

Links to Maths:

- Patterns of three, four, and eight
- Odd numbers
- Counting items (snowballs) in a piece of music



Welcome to Music Express Online

Here you will find everything you need to deliver curriculum music week by week, plus a treasure trove of great songs, activities and instrumental teaching resources. You can save resources you like in your 'My favourites' folder by clicking on the [heart] icon.



Lesson Bank

Fully resourced lessons to take you from Early Years to the end of Key Stage 2.



Song Bank

Select from over 400 diverse songs to suit any age-group or occasion.



Warm Ups

Vocal warm ups, physical warm ups and focus-builders: a great way to get any lesson, rehearsal or session off to a flying start.



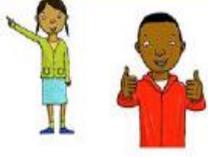
Skill Builders

Self-contained activities on beat, rhythm and pitch that can be revisited regularly.



Instrumental Resources

Try our ukulele group-teaching scheme of work specially devised for group and classroom teaching.



Glossary

Don't know your timbre from your timbrel? Fear not – help is at hand.



About Music Express

Everything you need to know about Music Express.



For a **2 week free trial** to explore this site's features simply email: education.support@harpercollins.co.uk and request your free access to music express. Please provide them with your name, school and work email address and they will email you the details.

Charanga

Charanga is a fantastic musical teaching resource available for Primary and Secondary Schools. It has complete schemes of work designed for the specialist and non-specialist teacher. The programme has many exciting and motivational features and it has a song bank that again you can search through by subject or theme etc.

Home >

Charanga Sing

SONG CATEGORIES

My Starred Songs

GENERAL

- Age Suitability (7)
- General Difficulty (4)
- Musical Style (22)
- Song Genre (30)
- Topics/Themes (63)
- Curriculum Subject (19)
- Language (7)

TIME & PLACE

- Era/Musical Period (15)
- Calendar (14)
- Countries (27)

THE SINGING

- Subject of Song (52)
- Use For (9)

Search

Topics/Themes **Vikings**

Display: Detailed | Order Results: Most Relevant

Displaying 1 to 7 of 7 songs matching your search.

Learn to Sing the Song - Viking Clothes by Donna Minto
A song about the clothes the vikings wore.
Age Suitability: 7-9 , 9-11 | General Difficulty: easy | Song Genre: children's | Topics/Themes: Vikings | Curriculum
LISTEN LAUNCH SONG INFO STAR

Learn to Sing the Song - Thor The Thunderer by Donna Minto
A song about the God Thor
Age Suitability: 7-9 , 9-11 | General Difficulty: easy | Song Genre: children's | Topics/Themes: Vikings | Curriculum
LISTEN LAUNCH SONG INFO STAR

Learn to Sing the Song - Jorvic Market by

VOCAL COACH (INCLUDING VOCAL WARM-UPS)

- Exploring Vocal Health
- Warm-up Activities
- Classic Vocal Warm-ups

SONG COLLECTIONS

- All songs A-Z
- NEW! Song Sampler
- Well-known Charanga Unit Songs

For your **free 30 day trial** simply click on this link:

<http://www.makemusicgloucestershirecharanga.org.uk/site/musical-school-trial/>

Make Music Gloucestershire offers a subsidised rate of £150 if you do wish to purchase a full licence (full price is normally £195 plus VAT). Simply contact mark.medland@gloucestershire.gov.uk for more details.

Make Music Gloucestershire also regularly holds free training events for Charanga users or for those who are interested in using Charanga.

Sign up to the MMG e-newsletter to ensure you receive information about the next course date.

www.makemusicgloucestershire.org.uk