What is Music?

World Percussion / In Tune with Music
Music is...

- Performance
- Thoughts, Feelings & Emotion
- Harmony & Dissonance
- Rhythm
- Dynamics
- Singing
- Playing instruments
- Movement
- Science
- Culture
- History
- Math
Music is…

- A Whole New Language
Musical Language

- Musical Symbols
  - *Staff* – what musical symbols are written on:
Musical Language

- Musical Symbols
  - *Treble Clef* – designates specifically mid-range to high-range musical tones and identifies EXACTLY where those higher range notes are:
  
  - *Also called “G” clef*
Musical Language

- Musical Symbols
  - *Treble Clef Staff* – exact locations for each mid to high tone:
Musical Language

- Musical Symbols
  - Treble Clef Staff - with lines and spaces separated (easier to learn for some)
Musical Language

- **Musical Symbols**
  - *Bass Clef* - designates specifically mid-range to low-range musical tones and identifies EXACTLY where those lower range notes are:
  - *Also called the “F” clef*
Musical Language

- Musical Symbols
  - *Bass Clef Staff* - exact locations for each mid to low tone:

![Bass Clef Notes](image)
Musical Language

- **Musical Symbols**
  - *Bass Clef Staff* - with lines and spaces separated (easier to learn for some)
Musical Language

- Musical Symbols – Whole Note and Rest
Musical Language

- Musical Symbols – Half Note and Rest
Musical Language

- Musical Symbols – Quarter Note and Rest
Musical Language

- Musical Symbols – Eighth Note and Rest
Musical Language

- Notes in relation with each other:
Quick Quiz

- Number from 1 to 5. Give yourself enough room to make a staff for each number.

1. Draw a treble clef, and then a whole note on a C.
2. Draw a treble clef, and then a quarter note on an F.
3. Draw a treble clef, and then an eighth note on a B.
4. Draw a bass clef, and then draw a half note on the note D.
5. Draw a bass clef, and then draw a quarter note on E.
Musical Language

- Dynamics – varying degrees of volume in music

\( p \) \( mp \) \( mf \) \( f \)
Musical Language

- Dynamics – varying degrees of volume in music

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dynamic Sign</th>
<th>Italian</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ppp</td>
<td>pianississimo</td>
<td>Very, very soft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pp</td>
<td>pianissimo</td>
<td>Very soft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p</td>
<td>piano</td>
<td>Soft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mp</td>
<td>mezzo piano</td>
<td>Moderately soft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mf</td>
<td>mezzo forte</td>
<td>Moderately loud.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>forte</td>
<td>Loud.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ff</td>
<td>fortissimo</td>
<td>Very loud.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fff</td>
<td>fortississimo</td>
<td>Very, very loud.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Musical Language

- Dynamics – varying degrees of volume in music

\[ p \leftarrow f \rightarrow p \]

\[ \text{crescendo} \quad \text{decrescendo} \]
Musical Language
Music is...

- **Rhythm** (n.)
  - Organized arrangement of sound depending on duration and stress
  - Pulse/Speed = **TEMPO**
    - Fast
    - Slow

- Without Rhythm, music loses sense and order
Music is...

▪ **Rhythm** (n.)
  - Most basic form
    ▪ Taught very young as *Call and Response*
  
  ▪ Depending on drumming style, the rhythms match up differently and for a different purpose
African Culture & Music

“There is no movement without rhythm” - video