

Listen Up!

Bob Marley 'Three Little Birds'



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9qqDuEP4okw>

Listen carefully to the laid back **reggae rhythm**.



Reggae music started in Jamaica and developed in the late 1960s as a mix of Calypso, Jazz and Rhythm and Blues. The music has a laid back feel, with bass and drums create the rhythm, with

strong accents on the 2nd and 4th beats of a bar.

EXPLORE

Pulse and rhythm with BBC BITESIZE

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcbkcj6/articles/z2mqw6f>

Now look closely at this **reggae rhythm**. Count to four with a steady **PULSE** then try to clap on the 2nd and 4th beats.



1 **2** 3 **4** 1 **2** 3 **4**

1. Listen to 'Three Little Birds' again.
2. clap/stamp/play a pan or drum on the 2nd and 4th beats.
3. Concentrate remember to count 1234 to keep the PULSE.
4. When you get better at this you can say 1234 in your head.

Pulse - a steady beat like a ticking clock or your heartbeat.

Rhythm - sounds and silences are put together to form patterns of sound.

Syncopation - rhythm patterns where stressed notes are placed off the beat.

Let's get Creative!

IMPROVISE YOUR OWN MELODY

Melody and Pitch with BBC BITESIZE

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcbkci6/articles/zp99cj6>

Improvisation is another word for being able to create music on the spot. Often a performer will **improvise** around the **melodies** that appear in a song or a piece of music, perhaps expanding or varying them slightly.

1. Put on the music from this link. Can you feel the **PULSE**?

Three Little Birds - Karaoke & Chords

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNMjVO1pXr4>

2. Start with one note C, play it with the **pulse**.
3. Still with one note C, add your own **rhythms**.
4. Now try with the notes C,D and E.
5. **Repeating** the same thing again and again is a good thing. 😊
6. Now you are comfortable, use the **PENTATONIC** scale note C, D, E, G and A (you can't go wrong)

VIRTUAL PIANO - turn on the letter notes to help.

<https://www.onlinepianist.com/virtual-piano>

VIRTUAL BASS GUITAR – You can highlight the notes you want to play – **highlight C to start with** a join in with the bass on the track.

<https://www.musicca.com/bass-guitar?notes=&highlighted=&inverted>

Extra fun

“You can get it if you really want” - Desmond Dekker

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLFmbE6Maa8>

1. What is the solo instrument in the introduction?

Circle your answer.

Saxophone Violin Trumpet Flute

2. What other instruments do you hear throughout the piece?

There are five in total – write as many as you can.

3. Write three adjectives to describe how this music feels to you.
4. What is the tempo (speed) of this music?
5. How many voices can you hear altogether, including the lead vocalist (male) and backing vocalists (female)?

2 4 6 8

6. Many reggae tunes are based on Rastafarian religious beliefs . Which of the following beliefs do you think sums up the lyrics of this song?

Love Brotherhood Peace

Anti-racism Optimism Freedom

(This listening activity is from TES Resources-Author: mangopiano.)