



Music Strands:

- Developing Practical Knowledge in Music
- Developing Ideas in Music
- Communicating and Interpreting through Music

Achievement Objectives

- Exploring how sound is made using a variety of conventional and unconventional musical instruments
- Expressing and arranging original ideas in sound
- Developing, refining and sharing performance skills.

Curriculum Levels:

Levels 3-4 (easily adapted to lower levels)

TEACHER INTRODUCTION

The objective of this project is to explore the exciting sounds that can be made by paper and compose and perform paper music. A previously written graphic score is included in the project for playing and providing students with a simple example of a professionally written graphic score.

ACTIVITY ONE – TUNING IN TO PAPER

Divide the students into groups of 7-9 and issue each student with a large double sheet of newspaper. The task of each student is to find out how many different sounds they can make with the newspaper and explore the many different ways of making these sounds.

After sufficient experimentation time, call the groups back (issue new paper) and have them present the discovered sounds to the class. Have the listeners close their eyes during the presentation of the sounds and challenge them to state how the sounds were being made.

EXAMPLES FOR TEACHERS

Sounds can be made by:

- Hitting the paper
- Blowing the paper
- Crumpling the paper
- Tearing the paper
- Flapping the paper
- Ripping the paper
- Scraping nails on the paper
- Dropping paper balls on the floor

ACTIVITY TWO – PAPER MUSIC COMPOSITION

Remind students that sounds can be made – in succession, in pairs, in small groups and or all together. Sounds in succession can cease before the next sounds starts or continue to be made and build up in density as each new group member comes in. Used in a circle with listeners seated in the middle with eyes closed, can give the effect of a sound spreading around the room and building up in intensity. The converse can also apply.

Assign each group the task of composing and performing paper music from their discovered sounds. Use the surrounding the listeners technique with listeners seated in a circle. Explain to the listeners that if their eyes are closed it will greatly enhance their listening experience. They will be able to experience a quadrophonic or surround sound effect from the music when played this way.

FURTHER ACTIVITIES

- Challenge groups to write down their paper music in graphic notation form. Use some of the agreed symbols from the previously agreed symbol chart.
- Evaluate the scores for clarity and evaluate each performance for contrast and excitement. Decide what sound elements you will be looking for in the evaluation. Why were these chosen?
- Try the overleaf Paper Music with the students. Photocopy off sufficient copies so students can see this example of a graphic score. Discuss appropriateness of symbols used. Can they come up with different/better symbols that would indicate the same? How would they indicate:
 - *blowing the paper*
 - *hitting the paper*
 - *scraping nails on the paper?*

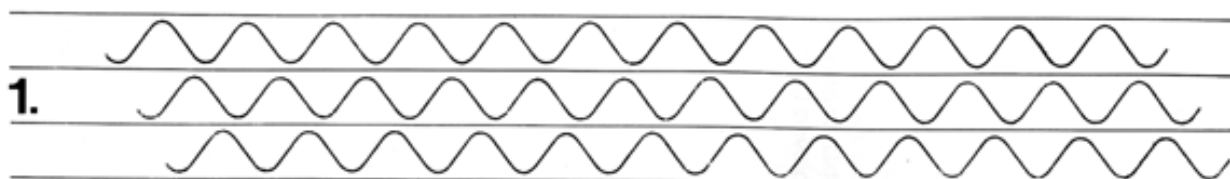
PROJECT FOUR: SOUNDS OF PAPER

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERFORMING PAPER MUSIC

1. Players stand in a circle surrounding the listeners who have their eyes closed. They hold their newspaper sheets absolutely still. As the conductor points to each member of the circle in turn, they begin to (and continue) to gently flap their news paper. The conductor decides on how long this continues and indicates a sudden stop by dropping the arm. 5 seconds of complete silence follows.
2. When indicated by the conductor's arm, each player in succession slowly starts to tear their paper until all players are slowly tearing. On an indication by the conductor, all players simultaneously rip their paper quickly. 6 seconds of complete silence follows.
3. When indicated by the conductor, each player in succession slowly starts to crumple their paper until all are crumpling their papers into a small ball. On the conductor signal, all players cease crumpling. 7 seconds of complete silence follows.

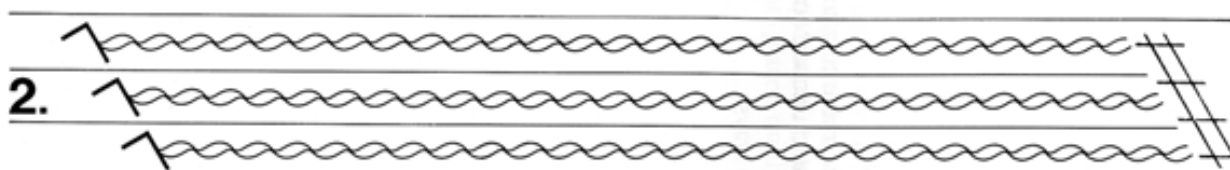
On the conductor's signal, all players simultaneously release the paper from their outstretched hands. The music is completed with the sound of all the crumpled paper balls hitting the floor.

PAPER



The above graphic symbols indicates newspaper being flapped gently in succession by the group

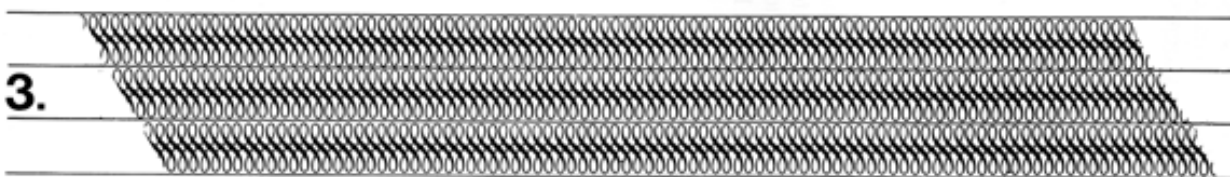
5" silence



Indicates newspaper tearing in succession by group

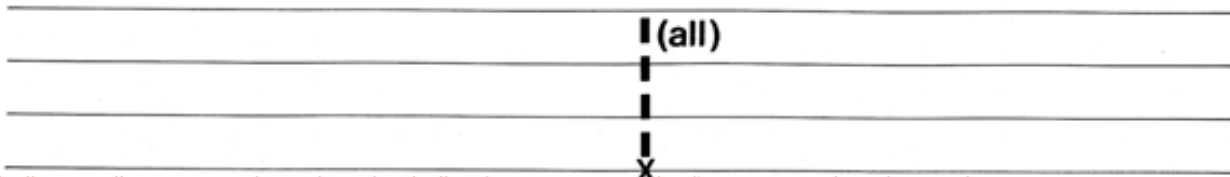
Symbol at end indicates a simultaneous (rip)

6" silence



Indicates crumpling of newspaper in succession by the group

7" silence



Indicates all group members dropping balls of newspaper to the floor to complete the music