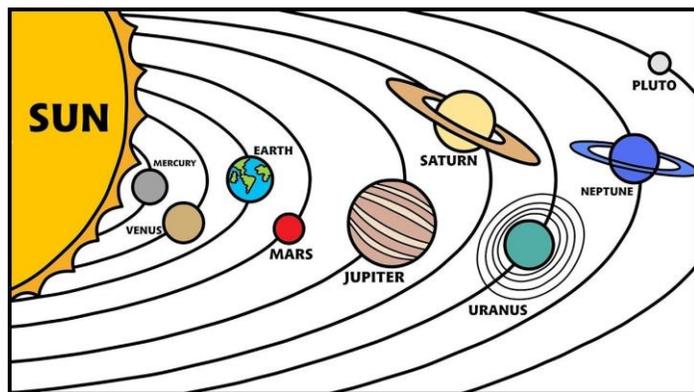


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MUSIC & STORY

YEAR 5, UNIT 4



IMPORTANT RHYTHMS & THEMES

"Get in a space - ship go to Mars"

"Fly - ing Floa - ting Swoo - ping Soa - ring Fly - ing..."

next-door notes ----->

ABOUT THE PIECES

Title: 'Mars bringer of War' from *The Planets Suite* by Gustav Holst

Facts/info: Gustav Holst was a British composer best known for his orchestral suite 'The Planets'. A suite is a group of individual pieces. There are seven pieces in 'The Planets' and 'Mars, the Bringer of War' is the first one.

In ancient Roman religion Mars was the god of war. Holst composed this piece in anticipation of the outbreak of World War One. It's a march but an unusual one. Normally a march has 4 beats in a bar so you can say "left, right, left, right" but Mars has 5 beats in a bar; tricky to march to!

Listen out for: The opening two harps, strings playing with the wood of the bow, timpani using very hard-headed sticks and the gong. There's also a solo from the euphonium.

KEY WORDS	
Dynamics	the volume of the sound or a note
Tempo	the speed at which a piece of music is played
Ostinato	A short phrase repeated continuously (term most often used in relation to classical music).
Motif	A short melodic or rhythmic idea
Transposition	Moving a musical idea to a higher or lower pitch
Tutti	Everybody plays together
Consonant	Sounds that are pleasing
Dissonant	Sounds that clash or sound 'harsh'

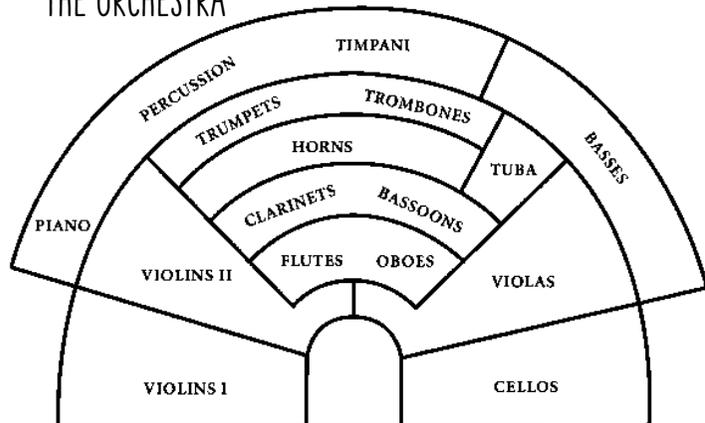
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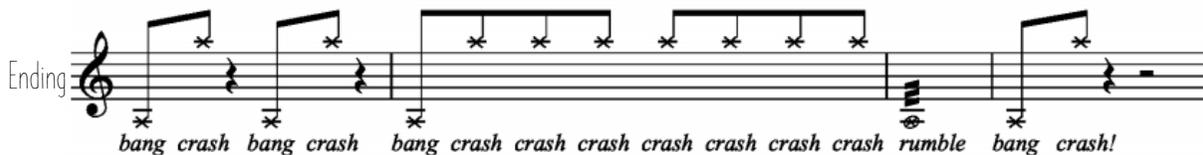
YEAR 5, UNIT 4



THE ORCHESTRA



IMPORTANT THEMES



ABOUT THE PIECES

Title: 'In the Hall of the Mountain King'
from *Peer Gynt* by Edvard Grieg

Facts/info: Grieg's music drew on the Norwegian folk tunes of his homeland. He wrote many songs and piano miniatures. He was a leading composer of the Romantic era and brought the music of Norway to an international audience.

Grieg's 'Peer Gynt Suite' tells the story of a young boy - Peer Gynt, who falls in love with a girl but is not allowed to marry her. He runs away into the mountains but is captured by trolls who take him to their King. Peer Gynt tries to escape but is chased by the trolls and runs into the troll King but eventually gets away.

Listen out for: The strings that play the sounds of Peer tiptoeing and running to escape. The tiptoeing sound is an effect called pizzicato where string players pluck the strings of their instrument rather than use a bow.