

Morpeth First School Knowledge Organiser

opic: Music - Composers	Year group
Gustav Holst, Johannes Regis, Marvin Gaye,	Year 3

Background knowledge

**Gustav Holst** (21 September 1874 - 25 May 1934) was a famous English composer. He was born in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. He studied composition at the Royal College of Music in London. He also learned to play the trombone. He became Director of Music at St Paul's Girls' School, Hammersmith, (London). Some of his music was written for the pupils at this school: for example, the popular *St Paul's Suite* (1912-1913) for string orchestra. His most famous work is *The Planets* (1918). This is a suite of seven movements for orchestra, each about a different planet (the Earth is not included, and Pluto had not yet been discovered). The music does not really describe the planets, it describes the Roman gods after which the planets are named. Mars, for example, is the "Bringer of War". It has a very exciting rhythm with five beats in a bar. Jupiter has a tune which has become famous as the hymn "I Vow to Thee, My Country". He died of heart failure in London.

What should I already know?

Year 2

I can identify some of the instruments used in Tchaikovsky's 'The Nutcracker'

I can listen out for particular things in music

I can learn the names of different instruments

I can identify some instruments by sound alone

National Curriculum Objectives / Key Skills	The Journey
<p>Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds</p> <p>Appreciate and understand high quality live and recorded music</p> <p>Begin to develop an understanding of the history of music</p> <p>I can identify the musical elements in his music</p> <p>I can understand that- tempo means speed in music,</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I know who Holst is and some facts about his life.</li> <li>2. I can listen to 'The Planet' by Holst and describe what I like and dislike.</li> <li>3. I can identify musical elements in music such as tempo, melody, rhythm and dynamics.</li> <li>4. I can use musical words to describe a piece from 'The Planet'.</li> </ol>

melody is the tune,

rhythm is the beat,

dynamics is the volume.

I can use the musical words above to describe a piece of music

I can use musical words to describe what I like and dislike

I can recognise the work of at least one famous composer

5. I can compare different parts of 'The Planet' using musical words.

6. I can compare the work of Holst to other composers I have learnt.

## Outcomes

### An overview of what children will know / can do

#### Working towards:



I am able to say how a piece of music makes me feel. I can say when a piece of music is fast or slow and know that this is called the tempo of the music.

#### Expected:

I can describe how a piece of music makes me feel. I can explain when the music is loud or soft and use the correct terminology of dynamics, tempo, rhythm and melody to discuss a piece of music. I can name a piece of music by Holst.

#### Exceeding:

I can compare the different parts in The Planet using musical terminology. I understand the history of the piece of music and can explain how Holst music has developed by naming other pieces he wrote.

Key Vocabulary	Timeline / Diagrams
<p><b>Tempo</b> The speed of music.</p> <p><b>Melody</b> The tune.</p> <p><b>Rhythm</b> The beat</p> <p><b>Dynamics</b> The volume.</p> <p><b>Composer</b> A person who writes music as a professional occupation.</p> <p><b>Compare</b> Point out similarities and differences.</p>	 

Key people / places
<p>Gustav Holst came from a family of musicians and had hoped to be a pianist but injury prevented him from this!</p> <p>He took up the trombone at the age of 12</p> <p>He also conducted of his local church choir</p> <p>He didn't earn enough money composing so he had a job playing the trombone as well</p>

Holst worked as a director of music in St Paul's Girls' School and also as a director of music at Morley College

During a holiday in Spain, Holst was introduced to astrology, an interest that inspired his suite *The Planets*. Holst cast his friends' horoscopes for the rest of his life and referred to astrology as his 'pet vice'.

The first performance of *The Planets* was given on 29 September 1918 in London

### Assessment questions / outcomes

1. Who was Holst?
2. Can you identify some musical features of *The Planet*?
3. Can you suggest how Holst music was composed?
4. Can you name some instruments used in *The Planet* to create different effects?