



"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart"

Colossians 3:23

African Drumming

Year 3
Autumn 1

Key Knowledge:

To know that:

- **Three different sounds can be made on the Djembe drums; slap, bass and tone.**
- **Musical ideas can be structured, using call and response.**
- **To maintain a steady tempo, it is important to watch the leader carefully.**
- The drum is rested against our legs when playing and is tilted at an angle to allow the sound to come out.
- We play Djembe drums with our hands.
- The master drummer controls the rhythm of the music and is the leader.
- High tones and low tones can be created on the drums.
- Different rhythms can be layered together to create a different texture.
- The Djembe drums come from Mali, in West Africa.



Key Vocabulary:

Africa: The world's second largest continent

Rhythm: A strong, regular repeated pattern of movement or sound

Djembe: A djembe drum is a skin-covered goblet drum played with bare hands, originally from West Africa

Tone: The tone (medium pitch) is played with the hand on the edge of the skin, using the wrist as well as the arm to propel the hand towards the drum.

Bass tone: The bass sound (low pitch) is achieved by striking the drum in the middle of the skin with a heavy hand

Slap tone: The slap (high-pitched) is technically the hardest stroke to achieve. There are many types of slap, all of which are played near the edge.

Call and Response: Songs or instrumental pieces where the leader sings/plays a short phrase and everyone responds. Sometimes the response is a copy of the call, sometimes it is different.

Master Drummer: A drummer who is well known by other masters for their high skill and knowledge.

Repeat: To play or sing something again.

Structure: The arrangement and order of the parts or sections of the music.

Pattern: When a series of notes and rests repeats, it forms a rhythmic pattern

Warm-up: To engage in exercise or practice especially before entering a game or performance.

Texture: How layers of sound within a piece of music interact.