

Woodwind Yellow Award Worksheet

Objective: Make up (improvise or compose) a simple tune

This follows on from the Orange Award, when you made up a three note tune. There are two ways to make up a simple tune. Here's the first way, improvisation:

1. Play a few four beat tunes on three notes, then joining two together to make an eight beat tune.
2. Experiment with adding in another note or two; see which work best; practise
3. Try using repetition of rhythms or notes, and repeating patterns starting on different notes; don't be afraid of leaving space.
4. Finalise your range of notes, (if unsure, try five or more in a row); practise different tunes, aiming for at least four bars; think about what works best.
5. For an optional added challenge, if you have iTunes or similar, ask your teacher to suggest a suitable backing track to try playing along with.
6. If you are in contact with a friend learning an instrument, you could try playing your simple tunes to each other over the phone.
7. Play your tune to an adult in your house and tick off on your Yellow Award card. Congratulations, you can now make up (improvise) a simple tune!

Here's the second way, composition:

1. Think back to when you used notation to help create your tune for the Orange Award, and write down a few eight beat rhythms using the following notes:



2. **Either** try writing down note names below your symbols and try playing them; experiment with changing some notes and decide what sounds best.
3. **Or** try reading your rhythm and experiment with playing different notes; when you find something that works, write down what you played and practise it.
4. Finalise your range of notes and expand your tune to at least four bars; try using repetition of rhythms and/or notes; experiment with changes; finalise; practise.
5. For an optional added challenge, if you have iTunes or similar, ask your teacher to suggest a suitable backing track to try playing along with.
6. If you are in contact with a friend learning an instrument, you could try playing your simple tunes to each other over the phone.
7. Play your tune to an adult in your house and tick off on your Yellow Award card. Congratulations, you can now make up (compose) and play a simple tune!