

Writing lyrics for a rap based on environmental issues

Key composer, genre and instrument	
<b>Duke Ellington (1899-1974)</b>	Edward Kennedy, known as Duke Ellington, was an American composer, pianist and leader of a jazz orchestra from 1923 through the rest of his life. Born in Washington, Ellington was based in York City from the mid-1920s. 
<b>Song</b>	Take the 'A' train, a jazz song written in 1939.
<b>Jazz instruments</b>	Piano, saxophone, double bass, trumpet, trombone, guitar.
<b>Jazz music style</b>	Jazz music is a broad style of music characterised by complex harmony, syncopated rhythms and a heavy emphasis on improvisation. Black musicians in New Orleans, Louisiana developed the jazz style in the early twentieth century.
<b>Other famous jazz musicians</b>	Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, Charlie Parker, Frank Sinatra, Ray Charles, Billie Holiday.



Ray Charles, one of the world's most influential jazz singers, became blind at age 7.



Ella Fitzgerald, known as the queen of jazz, was noted for her incredible ability to improvise which in jazz is called 'scat' singing.

Key Skills
Use voices with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.
Listen to and appreciate composers and musicians from different genres and eras.
Improvise vocally (rap and singing).
Compose song lyrics.
Perform a rap verse to the class.
Use technology to compose a backing track for a rap.



Relevant songs and music for listening
P.L.A.S.T.I.C
SOS from the Kids
I am the Earth
U Can't touch this - MC Hammer

Key Vocabulary	
<b>jazz</b>	Jazz music is a broad style of music characterised by complex harmony, syncopated rhythms, and a heavy emphasis on improvisation
<b>rap</b>	Speaking in time to the music. A form of music. RAP stands for rhythm and poetry. The first rap artist was called Coke La Rock from 1973!
<b>improvise</b>	Create ideas quickly without planning.
<b>compose</b>	Write down music ideas.
<b>verse</b>	A part of a song which has different words to the chorus and bridge.
<b>chorus</b>	A repeated section in a song.
<b>bridge</b>	A section different to the chorus and verses. Provides contrast to the main composition.
<b>syncopated</b>	Rhythms which are not on a main beat, but on the weaker beats in between.

