



My Lady Greensleeves
by Dante Gabriel Rossetti



Contemporary folk group
Mumford and Sons

Folk Music

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Folk music is a term used to describe all sorts of musical, oral and cultural traditions from specific regions and societies around the world. Folk comes from the German word 'volk' meaning 'the people' and folk music is often thought of as being the music belonging to 'the people'.

Traditionally, a piece of folk music should contain all of these parts.

- It is passed from one user to the next by word of mouth, rather than by being written down.
- The original composer is often unknown – instead the tune and words spread organically.
- The music is played on traditional instruments.
- A folk song often exists in several different versions but these versions have a simple **melody**, clear verses that tell a story, with a repeated chorus and **refrain**.
- Folk music is one of the major groups of types of music. It is now often divided into **traditional** folk music, like Greensleeves, as shown above, and **contemporary** folk music.

These are the notes that hand bells play on the staff notation.



Key Work

Scarborough Fair is a traditional English **ballad**, dating back to at least 1670. Traditional ballads are usually by unknown authors, having been passed on orally from one generation to the next.

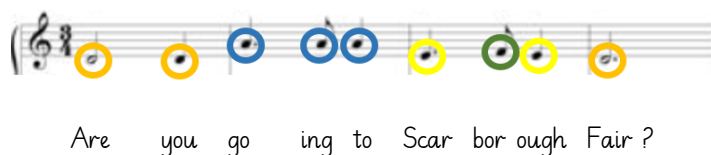
You will sing Scarborough Fair from memory and by modulating and controlling your voice. To do this, you will need to recognise how pitch can be presented in informal musical notation and, therefore, sing in **rhythm**. You will sing rhythmic patterns in contrasting tempo, keeping to the pulse.

You will perform rhythmically simple parts from Scarborough Fair's **melody** and **harmony**, using a limited range of notes on hand bells with increasing clarity and accuracy. We will be playing together so you will maintain your part within the class's **ensemble** of singing and instrument playing.



Key Skills

Below is the first line of Scarborough Fair. The coloured circles over the top of the musical notation show the colour of the hand-bell that plays each of these notes.



Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition
ballad	a song narrating a story in short verses.
pitch	how high or low the sound you hear
ensemble	groups of people who perform at the same time
rhythm	the recurrence of notes and rests (silences) in time. When a series of notes and rests repeats, it forms a rhythmic pattern
melody	a pleasing combination of pitch and rhythm
refrain	the line or lines that are repeated not the chorus
harmony	the sound of two or more notes heard simultaneously
traditional	music which uses non-electric instruments and the old fashioned, usual way of playing
contemporary	music which is happening now and uses modern instruments

These are hand bells. The different colours indicate the different notes that they play.

