

**Grade Level:** 2 - 3

**Curriculum:** Explorations, Art, ADST

**Title of Lesson:** Music as Communication

**Learning Goals/Objectives:**

- Engagement in the arts creates opportunities for inquiry through purposeful play.
- Skills can be developed through play.
- Technologies are tools that extend human capabilities.

**Materials Needed:**

- Internet access
- Tablet, computer, or mobile phone

**Activity Instructions: (Step by Step)**

- Art is meant to help us communicate with each other in ways that don't need us to use words. There are many forms of art, and you've probably done a few yourself! Drawing, painting, sculpting, singing, playing instruments are just a few!
  - Music is important to many people. Through sounds, we can communicate emotions, ideas and express ourselves!
    - When we make music, there are plenty of ways we can explore sound!
      - Pitch is how we can play with how high, or low a sound is. An example of a low sound would be a horn on a boat or a ferry, like this ([Click here to hear a ferry horn](#)). An example of a high sound would be a whistle, like this ([click here to hear a whistle](#)).
      - Rhythm is how we arrange sounds and silence to create music.
    - Playing with different rhythms and pitches can help us find the sounds to express our feelings or ideas.
  - Take a few moments to play with pitch using the [Google Blob Opera](#). Try using each blob to make high, and low pitched sounds. You can move your mouse up and down to change the pitch (or your finger if you are using a touchscreen device)
    - Try muting all of the blobs but one. How does it sound compared to when each of the blobs are singing?

- You can also change the sound that each blob is singing by moving the mouse to the left or to the right.
    - Once you've been able to play around a bit with each blob, try to create a song to express an emotion, like happiness or
- Take your musical creation further! Try exploring this interactive music composer:
  - [https://www.classicsforkids.com/games/compose\\_your\\_own\\_music.php](https://www.classicsforkids.com/games/compose_your_own_music.php)
  - This program lets us choose the pitch of the note, but also the duration, or the length of the note. Try playing with different pitches and different note lengths
    - How do long and low notes make you feel? What about short and high notes? What about short low notes? High long ones?
    - Try composing a song to fit the feeling joy! Share your creation with your family!