



Building Blocks of Music

Melody

Q&A Discussion Guide

QUESTIONS

1. What is melody?
2. Sing the melody of a familiar song.
3. In the video, how did the song sound when melody was removed?
4. How would “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star” sound if it were sung like the robot in the video?
5. What is pitch in music?
6. Sing or demonstrate a high pitch.
7. Sing or demonstrate a low pitch.
8. What is contour in music?
9. What are the main ingredients of a melody?
10. Hum, sing, or play the melody of a familiar tune and have the class guess what it is.

ANSWERS & TEACHER GUIDE

1. Melody is the part of a song that often sticks in your head—the tune.
2. Any familiar melody may be used. “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star” is used in the video.
3. Robotic.
4. Allow students to imitate the robot from the video.
5. Pitch tells us how high or low a sound is.
6. Listen and check the student’s demonstration.
7. Listen and check the student’s demonstration.
8. Contour is the path a melody takes as the notes move up, down, or stay the same.
9. Rhythm, pitch, and notes.
10. Possible melodies include “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star”/“ABC,” “Happy Birthday,” “The Wheels on the Bus,” “If You’re Happy and You Know It,” or other familiar songs.

TEACHER NOTE

Questions 2 and 10 can use any songs your students know. School songs, classroom songs, or other familiar tunes work well. Question 4 can also be used as a fun group activity by allowing students to imitate the robot from the video.

