

Music Mind Mapping Lesson Plan
Shift: Music, Meaning Context. April 13-August 6, 2023

Grade Level: 7-12 with modifications for different grade levels

Materials: Mind Mapping Worksheet, Pencils, Clipboards, Colored Pencils (optional)

Description: A mind map is a way to visually arrange information of something large that can be broken down into many parts. In mapping the data, you can creatively show hierarchies or relationships between pieces of the whole. In this activity students will create a mind map of music, showing the different genres, musicians, and musical instruments they are already familiar with. This is an excellent activity to do before you take a guided tour of the MoCP exhibition *Shift: Music, Meaning, Context*, which explores how music changes in form and interpretation as it moves across time, bodies, and place. An Education Guide for the exhibition can be downloaded [here](#).

Objectives

- Students will start conversations about students’ prior knowledge of musical genres and their own associations with different types of music.
- Students will share their maps to expand their awareness and vocabulary of musical genres
- Students will think about the role of music in their lives
- Students will have a foundation for visiting the MoCP exhibition *Shift: Music, Meaning, Context*

Procedure

3-4 minutes: Pass out materials and introduce the goal. You can do it in small groups or have students work on them individually.

Sample script (Please modify to fit your teaching style)
“The goal of this activity is for you to brainstorm and create a mind map of all the music genres you can think of. What are some examples of music genres? Once you get your worksheet you will see that the term ‘music’ is in the middle, you will add different music genres onto the branches. You can add another branch to list out the musicians or bands you know, you should also list out the instruments used in these genres.”

10 minutes: Work period.

 Tell the group how much time they have to complete the activity. Tell them how much time they have left around the 3-minute mark.

15 minutes: Sharing mind maps with others. Ask students to briefly share their map and talk for a few minutes about the genres they identified.

Questions to consider: *Why do you think we did this activity? How easy or difficult was this exercise for you? Did you learn about a new style of music you were unaware of? How might music relate to other aspects of your family, upbringing, or identity? What role does music play in your daily life?*

Use the template below or create a music mind map! The main branches will correspond to different music genres. Add musicians, musical groups, and bands in the branches. You should also add the musical instruments or equipment used in that genre.

