Grades K–2
Journey to NYC Monuments

Pan Flute: Harlem Music

Inspired by the Harlem music scene, children will discuss the various contributions of musicians and their instruments. Children will create their own pan flute and understand the range of sound waves.

What Will You Learn?
- What jazz is and its history
- What was the Harlem Renaissance, including its poets
- Who were some influential jazz musicians

Materials:
- Tape
- Straws
- Black construction paper
- Permanent marker
- Scissors

Instructions:
1. Cut your straws in different lengths according to the photo to the right.
2. You should have 8 straw pieces. Line your straw pieces from shortest to tallest.
3. Cut a strip of black paper. Decorate your strip with your coloring materials.
4. Make a tape loop and stick it to the back of your strip. Continue placing tape circles along the length of the strip.

5. Place your straw pieces, from shortest to tallest, across your tape loops. Make sure the tops of your straws are sticking out above the paper so you can blow in them!

6. Keep placing more tape loops so your strip makes it all the way around. Press down firmly. Tape the edge.

7. Label each straw 1–8 with a black marker.

8. Now, practice making sounds with your flute by resting the tops of the straws on your lower lip and blowing across them.

**Reflection Questions:**

- What type of music do you like to listen to? How do you think jazz has influenced other musicians or music genres?
- If you could play any instrument, which would you choose? Why?
- Who’s your favorite jazz musician? What did you learn about him/her?
- How did jazz influence the world?

**Explanation:**

- Jazz, with its syncopated rhythms and improvisational nature, became a prominent art form during the Harlem Renaissance. Many poets of the era, such as Langston Hughes, incorporated jazz elements into their works, giving rise to jazz poetry.
- The Harlem Renaissance, a cultural and artistic movement in the 1920s, played a significant role in the development of jazz flute. Pioneers like Alberto Socarras and Wayman Carver were among the early jazz flutists who contributed to the history of jazz flute.
Harlem's jazz scene flourished with the opening of numerous jazz clubs. The Cotton Club, Alhambra Ballroom, and Apollo Theater became iconic venues that showcased talented jazz musicians. Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, and Bessie Smith were among the influential performers who drew large audiences and helped popularize jazz.

Further Reading Recommendations:

- This Jazz Man
- Jazz For Lunch!
- Ella Fitzgerald: cantante estadounidense de jazz
- Sugar Hill: Harlem Historic Neighborhood

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