

There's a power in the music

Name:

Class:

School:

sing up day
11 March

Pupil Pack



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Lin Marsh

We caught up with the songwriter of the Sing Up Day 2020 song and here's what we learnt.

1. How old were you when you wrote your first song?
Just 8!
2. Top tips and steps to writing a song?
 - Know what you want to say
 - Find your hook line (often 1st line of chorus)
 - Find your tempo – either at the keyboard or on a programme like Garageband
 - Sit and write some lyrics – find a good rhythm and pattern
 - Try fitting a melody around them
 - Now you have done the trickiest part – play, alter, sing...until it becomes an earworm!
3. What's your favourite song you've written? (Apart from There's a power in the music, of course)
Believe
4. There's a power in the music is the title of the Sing Up Day 2020 song. When do you find music helping you the most?
I sing most of the day, whatever else I'm doing! I suppose it helps most if I'm feeling sad. It always makes me feel better.
5. What's your favourite thing about being a song writer?
Hearing other people sing my songs.
6. What's your advice for budding song writers?
Know what you want to say. Really think about the lyrics and that will help you find the right style and tempo. Sing it over and over so it sits well on the voice and feels natural. Never give up.
7. How do you make up the lyrics?
I start with a big sheet of paper and scribble down words and phrases I want to use in the song.

I begin usually with the chorus as that's the catchy bit. Then I write verse 1 – that can take hours or even weeks sometimes! I use a rhyming dictionary if I get stuck and a thesaurus for extra inspiration.

8. Do you get nervous about sharing something you've written?
Yes! It's like introducing a friend you really love but no-one has met before.
9. What songwriters do you like?
Paul McCartney
Amy Wadge
Elton John
Queen
Tim Minchin
10. Where do you get ideas for songs from?
Sometimes I'm asked to write a song with a particular message or theme. I love writing Musical Theatre, so then the ideas come from the story. Other times, I just have a thought I want to express through a song.
11. What do you do if you get stuck writing?
Get outside in the fresh air, do a crossword or sit and make myself find the solution. It all depends on the deadline. Songwriting is 10% inspiration and 90% perspiration!
12. If you weren't a songwriter what would you be?
Goodness that's hard because I think I have the perfect job. I already teach which I love but maybe a poet?

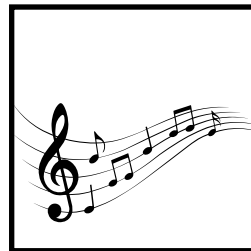


Story map

“There’s a power in the music”

Draw a story map to help you remember the lyrics of the chorus in the right order. You could add actions, sign language or Makaton too.

For example:



There’s a power in the music:

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There’s a spirit in the song:

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When our voices join together:

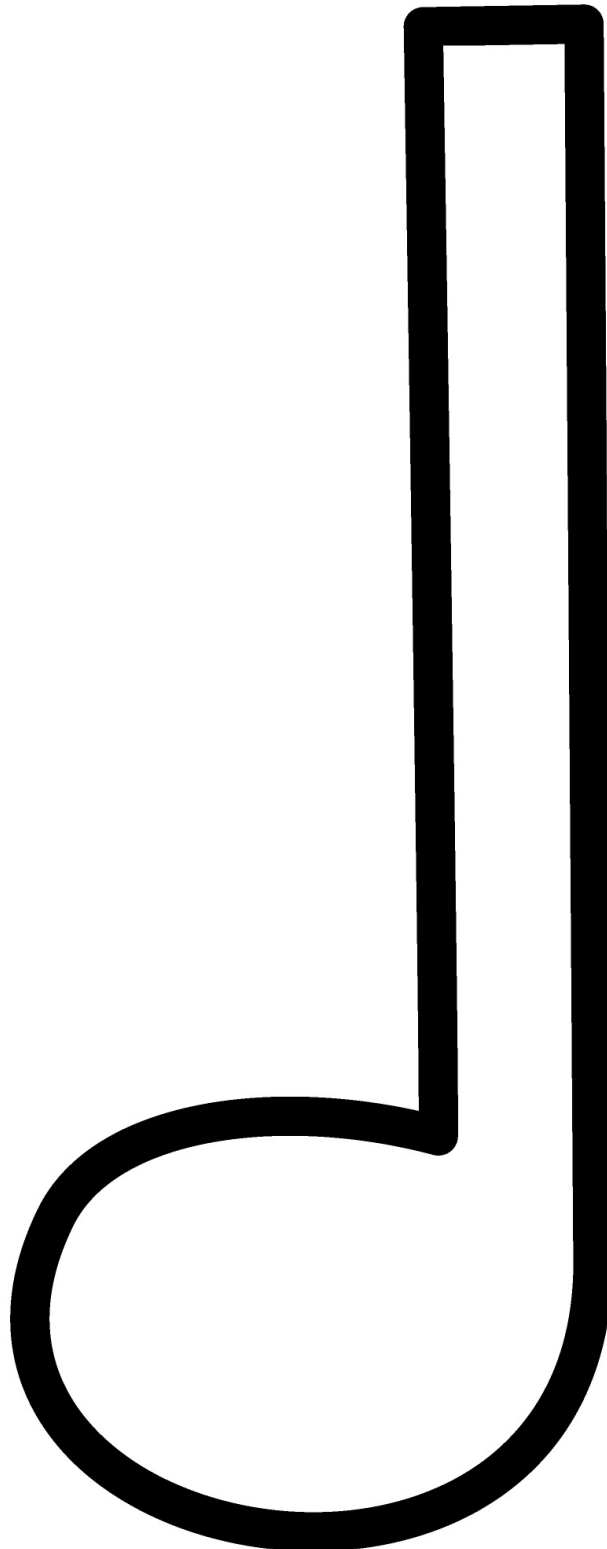
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We are fearless, we are one:

Masterpiece

“Stand together and we sing as one”

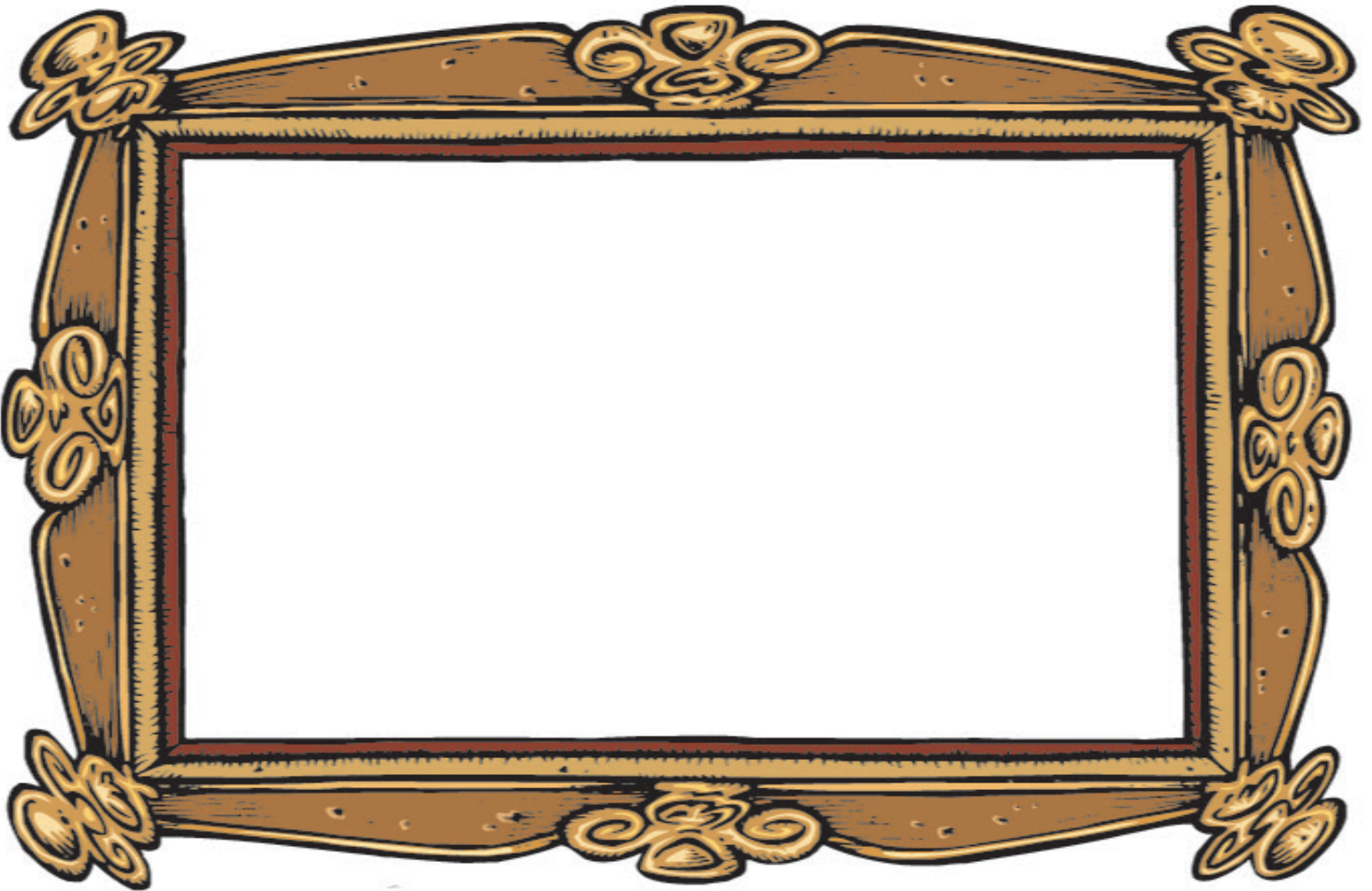
Colour in or decorate your note however you like. Once it is finished, it will form a part of a much bigger display.



My school family

“We are sister, we are brother, we are one big family”

Just like everyone in your class, you are part of a school family. In the frame, draw a picture of you all singing together in assembly or in choir or as a class. Underneath, describe how singing makes you feel.



When I sing I feel...

.....

.....

.....

.....

Singing together

“Singing lifts the spirit, heals the heart and feeds the soul”

Interview some people in your school about how singing makes them feel and why they enjoy it. Write their answers in the space below.

Name:.....
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Name:.....
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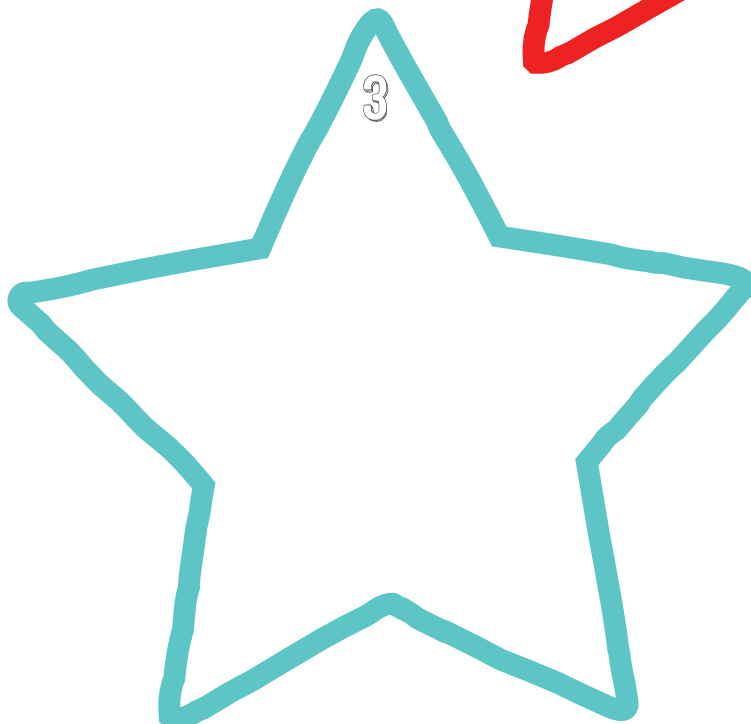
Name:.....
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My goals

“Singing makes us stronger we can reach for any goal”

Draw or write 3 things that you would like to achieve before you leave school. It could be a sporting activity, an award or to improve your singing for example.



Heroes

“Now your heart is beating to the rhythm of that drum, nothing is impossible, a hero you’ve become”

What kind of things do you think makes someone a hero?

.....

.....

.....

Who is your hero and why? Draw them here:



Name :

Reason :

What things could you do in order to be considered a hero?

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