



FEATURE

THE SEVEN YEARS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Meets National Core Arts Anchor Standards 7-9 and 11

MATERIALS

Music Alive! magazines (Vol.40 No.8)
Computer or mobile device with Internet access

START

Ask your students to read “The Seven Years that Changed Everything” on pages 6-9. Then, go over the following highlighted words. **[This reinforces comprehension and vocabulary.]**

SKIFFLE—a kind of folk music with a blues or jazz flavor that was popular in the 1950s, played by a small group and often incorporating improvised instruments such as washboards.

SINGLE—a song that is typically released prior to an album.

FOLK MUSIC—music that originates in traditional popular culture or that is written in such a style. Folk music is typically of unknown authorship and is transmitted orally from generation to generation.

MEDITATE—think deeply or carefully about (something).

THE BRITISH INVASION—cultural phenomenon of the mid-1960’s when rock and pop music acts from the United Kingdom and other aspects of British culture became popular in the United States and significant to the rising “counterculture” on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.

BEATLEMANIA—fanaticism surrounding the English rock band the Beatles in the 1960s.

ALBUM—a collection of recordings issued as a single item on CD, record, or another medium.

TOUR—a journey made by performers or an athletic team, in which they perform or play in several different places.

STYLE—a way of painting, writing, composing, building, etc., characteristic of a particular period, place, person, or movement.

GENRE—a category of artistic composition, as in music or literature, characterized by similarities in form, style, or subject matter.

REVOLUTIONIZE—change (something) radically or fundamentally.

TENSION—mental or emotional strain.

FOUR-TRACK—The 4-track cartridge as an analogue music storage format popular from the late 1950’s.

INFLUENCE—the capacity to affect the character, development, or behavior of someone or something, or the effect itself.

DEVELOP

As a class, listen to the following tracks in Hear the Music:

“Please Please Me”

How would you describe the tempo?
How does this song make you feel? Why?
How many harmony lines do you hear?
What instruments do you hear?

“Hello, Goodbye”

How does this style compare to their earlier style? How is it different?
How many instruments can you identify?
How would you describe the genre of the song?
Would this song have a different effect if it used different instruments?

“Let it Be”

How is the style of this song different from the first two?
How does this song make you feel? Why?
What instruments do you hear?

EXTRA CREDIT

Watch “A History of The Beatles 1962-1970” video.

Compare the different playing styles in the video. Can you describe the evolution of song styles and how it could have influenced other styles and genres of music?

Watch *The Ed Sullivan Show’s Beatles Debut.*

Does this level of fandom compare to any current artists? Who?
How does the Beatles’ earliest music sound to you? Is it relatable?

CLOSE

What do you think would happen if the Beatles had stayed together? Do you think it would have changed the music landscape more/less than it already did?

ASSESS

Did the students read the article?

Did they review the vocabulary words?

Did they answer the supplemental questions?