Caribbean Carnival

Lots of Caribbean countries celebrate carnivals, and so could you, with face paints, dressing up, music and fun in the sun!

The inspiration behind this resource comes from the upcoming season of summer music festivals carnivals, and International Reggae Day on July 1st.

https://www.ireggaeday.com/

Reggae Riffs and Sunshine Sounds



Much of the music of the Caribbean sounds full of sunshine - even when the songs are about hardship or struggle.

This easy listening project for the whole family aims to represent the perfect blend of high-level Roots Reggae with engaging Children's Music & Education:

https://rhythmchild.net/rhythm-child-music-samples-downloads/kindie-reggae

And here's a BBC Bitesize chunk on the history of Reggae:

http://tiny.cc/di37qz



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YolanDa's Band Jam



Lots of world music has a feel for the place it's from. YolanDa's Band Jam from the BBC explores all sorts of music - unfortunately not all episodes are always available to watch but there are some great introductions to all kinds of world music here!

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000f3pz

Move your Body and Sing a Song

The Sing Up website has some resources for use at home, including songs to move to. Both of these songs have a great Caribbean feel:



Baby one, two, three

Big Sing Up Mambo

sing up
Love learning, start singing

https://www.singup.org/singupathome/songs-to-get-moving

Play Reggae!

Although the ukulele is originally from Hawaii, it's great for some simple reggae songs. Just watch out for the strumming pattern - reggae works best with a strong "off beat" which can feel a bit tricky - google it if you dare, but the easiest way to start is to feel it! It's about where you put the emphasis in the music - maybe try this for starters - instead of counting **1**-2-3-4, try 1-**2**-3-**4**, putting the emphasis on the off beat.



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Three Little Birds



So here's Three Little Birds by arguably the most famous and recognisable reggae artist of all time, Bob Marley! It's simple to play and to get the whole family to sing along. You just need the ukulele chords C F and G7.

https://youtu.be/fPlyhjSxdEY

Don't Worry, Be Happy



Earlier this term we shared Don't Worry, Be Happy. Did you know that Bobby McFerrin who originally performed the song used only vocals and body percussion? You could try it!! Here's a Sing Up version to sing along to:

https://www.singup.org/singupathome/songs-for-virtual-choirs/part-songs

For ukulele players there's a play along version here, you just need the ukulele chords C Dm F.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6F5TaK8IGCk

Lava



And finally, although it's from a tropical island, it's definitely not from the Caribbean. Here's a favourite song to play along to from the short animation movie "Lava".

https://youtu.be/kbexjxcLA8E

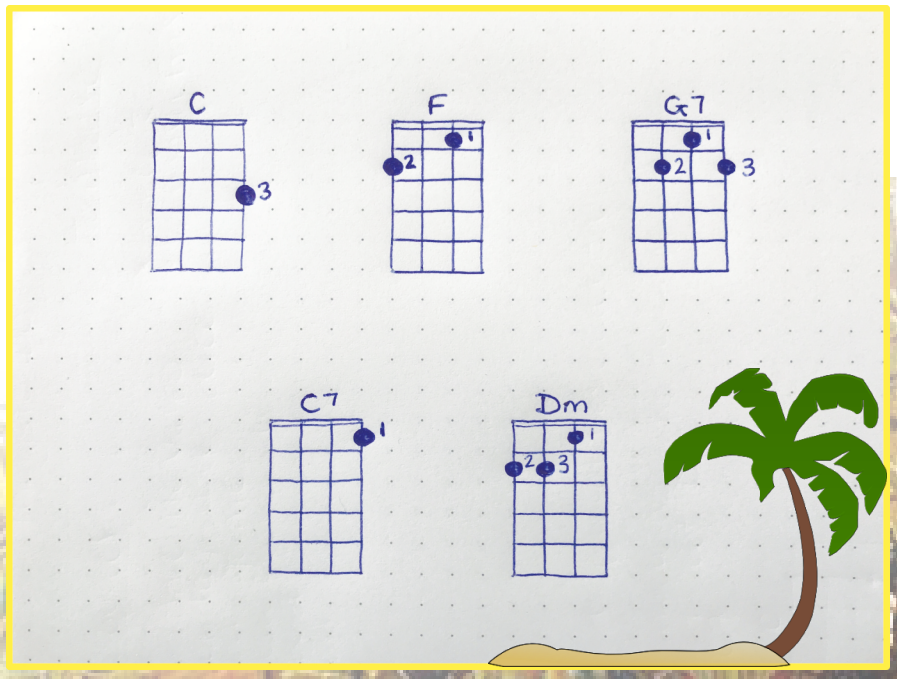
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Ukulele Resources

For all things ukulele, from getting started to interesting strumming patterns, check out John Atkins, AKA The Ukulele Teacher.

http://tiny.cc/dh37qz

And here are the chord charts to help you play the songs we've recommended.



Enjoy the music of the sunshine!

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