



Music Virtual Learning

Music Appreciation

May 15, 2020



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Lesson: May 15, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

Students will learn about the six elements of Hip-Hop.

Bellwork



What is the difference between Hip Hop and Rap?

Hip-Hop represents the bigger culture. A way of living.

Rap is something you do.

Lesson



6 elements of Hip-Hop

1. **Deejaying:** making music using record players, turntables, and DJ mixers
2. **Rapping:** rhythmic vocal rhyming style
3. **Graffiti painting:** also known as “graf” or “writing”
4. **Break dancing:** a form of dance that also encompasses an overall attitude and style
5. **Theater and Literature:** combining Hip-Hop elements and themes in drama, poetry, and stories
6. **Knowledge of self:** the moral, social, and spiritual principles that inform and inspire Hip-Hop ways of being.

Deejaying

1. Turntables became the instrument of inner cities due to lack of money and used at parties.
2. Backbone of Hip-Hop. The soul behind the beat.
3. Best DJs can sense the right moment to cue the right song using the right technique to keep the party going.
4. DJ Kool Herc experimented with the breaks which are the instrumental sections where people would lose energy on the dance floor.
5. **Scratching**: the DJ physically manipulates the record beneath the needle.
6. **Turntablism**: manipulating records to create a unique song.

Rapping (MCing)

1. Putting spoken-word poetry to a beat.
2. MC is short for “master of ceremonies” Work closely with the DJ.
3. Different parts of the record allowed the MC to talk over the beat as it kept going. Evolved to rhyming and rapping as they created little sayings.
4. Used freestyle skills to entertain and command a live audience.
5. The Sugarhill Gang’s “Rapper’s Delight” became rap’s first hit.
6. An MC or rapper’s “flow” is important to their performance. Requires combination of rhyme and rhythm.
7. MCs are recognized as accomplished formal poets by students of Hip-Hop culture.

Graffiti Painting

1. Graffiti existed before hip-hop became part of the culture.
2. Poverty was the bridge between hip-hop and graffiti
3. People involved in graffiti were also involved in the hip-hop culture.
4. It's improvisational style were influenced by the new and fresh feel of Hip-Hop. Known as *wild style*.
5. Artists embraced their identity as fearless outlaws and admitted the dangers and thrills were part of the appeal.



Break dancing

1. Hip-hop's dance form that involves improvisation (created on the spot)
2. Would occur during the break beat of a song at a party
3. Dancers were called b(breaker)-girls and b-boys.
4. Earn their skills by stepping out on concrete and admiring each other's cuts, bruises, and "battle scars."
5. Requires quick footwork with body twists and robotic movements.
6. Living, breathing art form.



Theater & Literature

1. Collaboration is key to Hip-Hop theater groups.
2. Hip-Hop Theater must be about and for the hip-hop generation.
3. Plots tackle current social issues. Characters explore the strengths and limits of activism and empowerment. Tackles identity and the struggle between the individual and society.
4. Rapping and Hip-hop literary forms have roots in the Black Arts Movement of the 1960s.
5. Black Arts Movements inspired generations of African American, Latino, and feminist writers.





Knowledge of Self

1. Poverty in the 1970s included cut basic services, school funding, arts education programs, and job training. Drugs, crime, and abandoned buildings became part of the community.
2. However, the urban youth kept creating new ways to spin records and dance.
3. Teaches the Hip-Hop community about its identity and ways to express that identity. Providing their own education.
4. Afrika Bambaataa credited for bringing this element into the hip-hop scene.

“Hip-Hop believe that people can take control of their lives through self-knowledge and self-expression.” -The Kennedy Center Educational Site

Influence of MTV

1. Made hip hop global
2. Made it a mainstream genre of music in America.
3. The song *Walk This Way* was a collaboration between Run DMC and Aerosmith that made Hip-hop global.



Review



Watch the following video:



- ❑ What did you learn about hip-hop that you didn't know before?
- ❑ What parts of hip-hop history surprised you the most?
- ❑ Did this help you gain an appreciation to the genre of hip-hop even if it is not your favorite genre of music?



Additional Resources



History of Hip-Hop

Historical Roots of Hip-Hop

Elements of Hip-Hop Culture

MTV