Melodies with natural sounds

What if we could use natural sounds to create a song to raise climate action awareness? We will be listening to sounds in nature. The second part will be to learn how to use the concepts of music creation with Chrome Lab to integrate bird sounds and create a melody. Use natural sounds to make music in Scratch!

Setup

While watching the clip of a nature outing, you will have the chance to hear the sounds of nature and especially the songs of various birds.

Content

Design Thinking Process

On the right is an example of a design thinking process for this activity. At each step, ask your students these questions and build the path with them.

Call to make

Nature offers a natural and peaceful music. Birds, squirrels, wind, rain, leaves, branches, trees each offer their own particular and distinct sounds. Have you ever noticed the variety of sounds in nature? Are these sounds related to concepts you learn in your music lessons?
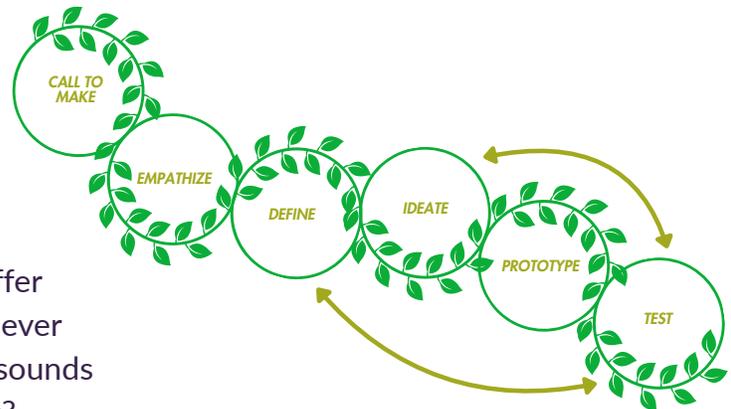
Skills

- Chrome Music Lab
- Scratch

Materials

- Computer and internet access; Chrome Music lab application
- A recorder

Empathize

How does music affect people's well-being? What aspects of music will be important to consider in creating a relaxing melody? What effect can your melody have on the well-being and relaxation of your friends and family? Who will your melody appeal to? How does listening to nature sounds make me feel? How does spending time in nature make me feel? When and why do I like to listen to music? What is my relationship with nature? Do I spend time in nature? When and where?

Stop in nature and listen…

Define

What criteria should be taken into account when creating music on the computer and when collecting sounds? What photos of elements of nature might appear on the screen when the melody is about to play? Will this melody be created to be enjoyed by young and old alike?

Ideate

What are the sounds that help people relax? What sounds will you use? Will we need to set up a process to guide you? (listen to sounds, pick up sounds, select sounds, set the pace, produce music sequences, harmonize the transition of the musical sequences). How can we use high and low sounds? Which rhythms are best for creating this relaxing melody? What Scratch projects can you find that can relate to this project? Can you find an existing Scratch to remix?

Prototype

How will you ensure a harmonious sequence of sounds during your creation? What are the other possibilities for each musical sequence? How can you address any issues in your code that arise?What else can you add to your song to refine it? Is there anything that needs editing in terms of tempo, volume, length, etc.? Is your song pleasant to listen to?

Test

After listening peacefully to your melody, what did you like? How will you know if the decisions you made in your musical creation have a relaxing effect? What improvements can you make to your musical creation? What variations could you bring to make the melody lively and dynamic?
Did your code work the way you wanted it to? How different is your result from what you imagined?

Teachable Moments

Math
Create rhythmic sequences in your creation with Chrome Music Lab. Calculate the number of short and long sounds used in the creation of your melody.

Science
Classify bird songs in an electronic folder according to the type of bird.

Visual Arts
Create the images that will be integrated into your music creation. Drawing inspiration from nature, create a poster advertising your music video.

Language Arts
Write a song to accompany your melody. Keep a diary. Write down relaxing thoughts, things you're thankful for, captivating and motivating quotes... pictures with your favourite colours.
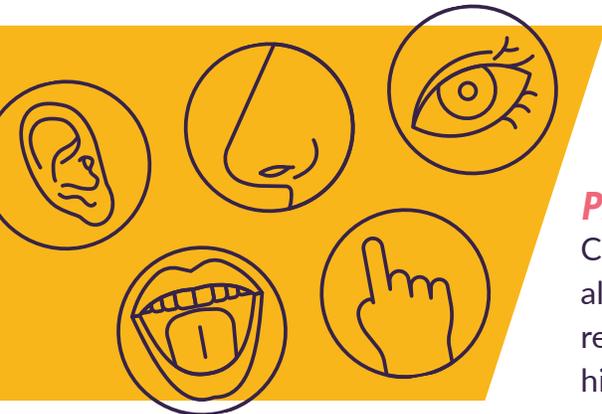
Music
Create a music clip of nature sounds. Record nature sound effects and download them to use in your music creation.

Physical Education
Create a visualization of a walk in the forest with Scratch, allowing you to focus on breathing, the 5 senses and relaxation. Capture the murmurs and sounds of nature while hiking in the forest.

Social Studies
Highlight nature-inspired music from around the world, what differences do you notice? What would be the differences in your creation, if you were in the Amazon rainforest? Find sounds of animals in the forest and make a different creation.

Glossary

Habitat
The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.

Resources

Let's create melodies with natural sounds

Two passionate and innovative music teachers, Chantal and Marc-André Pelletier, reveal how they perceive music in nature and how to interpret it to create our own musical pieces.

youtube.com/watch?v=I1TD37ZCR7U

Chrome Music Lab

musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/Song-Maker/

Scratch

scratch.mit.edu/projects/editor/?tutorial=getStarted

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Learning continuum:
Sustainable Innovation Through Holistic Connection

Based on **three emerging pedagogies*** and in recognition of indigenous knowledge, the natural maker educational continuum aims to support the learner through a holistic journey of connection to the earth, the community, oneself and others, in order to evolve globally towards a more open, humble, democratic and decolonized way of thinking, learning and living.

* wild pedagogies, conscious pedagogies and decolonization of education
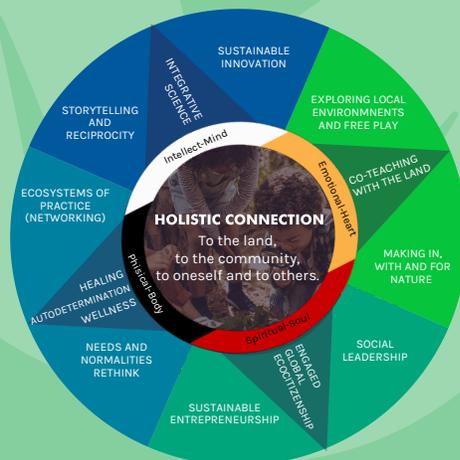
#EarthDayWithNature

#ActForEarth #ClimateAction

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