

Name: _____
Class: _____ Date: _____

Starry Starry Songs

An activity of "Our Singapore: Kosher shop"

INTRODUCTION

Many cultures have symbols that convey the importance of values such as unity and harmony. Stars, the moon and the sun are amongst some of the most popular symbols across the world. For example, within Judaism, the Star of David represents the shield of King David who united the people of Israel. Likewise, songs are also used to communicate important values. Follow the guidelines below to explore symbolic ways in which stars have been used in songs over the ages. And, have some fun by making music with whatever is available in the classroom!

DURING TWO MUSIC PERIODS

1. BROWSE through "Kosher shop" (<http://www.whatsup.sg/oursingapore/KosherShop.htm>).
2. FORM groups of 6 to 8 students. Make a list of songs that use star symbolism. Here are some suggestions:
 - A whole new world - Disney (Aladdin)
 - When you wish upon a star - Disney (Pinocchio)
 - Fly me to the moon - Frank Sinatra
 - Starry starry night - Don McLean
 - Reach for the stars - S Club 7
 - Catch a falling star - Perry Como
3. SELECT one song as your whole group's song. Make sure that your song does not have words that are inappropriate (e.g. foul language) because you will be performing the song in Music class.
4. WRITE the song title, name of group or singer, publisher and year on a piece of paper. Add a brief paragraph about why your group chose this song.
5. LOCATE items in and around the classroom that make different sounds. Use them as your 'musical instruments'.
6. PRACTISE singing your song and playing your musical instruments along with a CD of your song.
7. PRESENT your groups' song to your class, with a brief introduction explaining what it is about and your reason for choosing it.
8. REFLECT, as a whole class, on how this activity helped you to understand why various cultures have been so fond of using stars, the moon and the sun as symbols.