

Whole class instrument learning - ukulele

Key genre and instruments

Sea shanties

A sea shanty, chantey or chanty is a genre of traditional folk song that was once commonly sung as a work song to accompany rhythmical labour aboard large sailing ships. They were found mostly on British and other European ships.

These songs were usually unaccompanied: This means they were sung without instruments as the men were working and singing at the same time, pulling the ropes or scrubbing the decks. The songs motivated them to keep going.

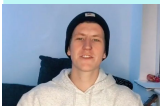


Well known shanties

What shall we do with the drunken sailor, O Sinner man, Blow the man down, The Wellerman.

Nathan Evans

Nathan Evans rose to fame in 2021 when he sang his own version of an ancient song dating back to the 1860s. It is a sea ballad from New Zealand. The song refers to the 'wellermen', pointing to supply ships owned by the Weller brothers. Sea shanties tell stories of life on board ships and this song tells the story of a whaling ship trying to catch a whale but being unsuccessful.



Am D add G Am
There was a ship that put to sea, The name of the ship was the Bil-ly of Tea. The
wind blew up, her bow dipped down, O blow my bul-ly boys, blow. Am
Soon may the Well-er-man come, And bring us sug-ar, tea and rum. Am
One day, when the tongu-in' is done, We'll take our leave and go.

Key Skills

- Moving between chords - A minor and F major, C major.
- Strum and play open strings with increased confidence.
- Play patterns using more than one finger.
- Develop self appraisal skills.
- Improvise successful 2 and 4 bar strumming responses.
- Sing more complex melodies and songs.
- Respond to written notation.

C Major

A Minor

F Major

Relevant songs

- The Wellerman
What shall we do with the drunken sailor
- Songs provided by the EMS tutor Paula Warren for the ukulele:**
Church Bells
Autumn Leaves
Strum Strum Strum Strum (developing this further and adding F chord)
TAB Tango
Third Fret Blues

Key Vocabulary

open string	A string that is played without any fingers pressing down on the neck to change its tone.
major chord	Strumming the four strings with fingers pressed down - major chords sound happy.
minor chord	Strumming the four strings with fingers pressed down - minor chords can sound sad, lonely or spooky.
A cappella	Songs which are unaccompanied: no instruments.
crotchet rest	A rest in the music for one beat.
minim rest	A rest in the music for two beats.
semibreve rest	A rest in the music for four beats
chord symbol	The picture of a chord showing where the fingers go on which strings - C major, A minor, F major, D minor.

What Shall We Do with the Drunken Sailor?

Moderately
Dm
Traditional

1. What shall we do with the drunk-en sail-or,
2. Put him in the long-boat 'til he's so-ber,
3. Pull out the plug and wet him all o-ver,
4.-8. See additional lyrics

DM