

# Weavers Cottages Song Cycle by Heather Wastie

## Teacher Notes

To encourage children to learn more about their local history a short song cycle based on the history of the cottages has been written by Heather Wastie. These songs are free to use as part of your curriculum planning and are relevant for Key Stages 1 and 2. Recordings of the songs and their lyrics can be found here: [brochure hyperlink](#) and are suitable for use on a whiteboard.

### Curriculum Links:

**Music** – performing, listening to and discussing music from different periods, genres, styles and traditions. Singing and using voices and understanding inter-related dimensions of music ie: pitch, duration, dynamics etc. Exploring sounds.

**English** – creative writing, poetry, writing for a purpose

**History** – links to local history of the area

**Maths** – number and counting

**Geography** – Understanding your locality

### Additional Activity – Compose a new local history song

#### Objective:

- To create/compose a new song for your local area using a tune known to you are one of your making
- To write new lyrics to fit to your chosen melody, based on your local history topic or any other key theme being explored in school

### Key Vocabulary:

Folk, tradition, genre, industry, lyrics, verse, chorus, rhythm, rhyme, pulse, tempo, accordion, ukulele

### Introduction:

Listen and appraise the songs. Explain to the children why the music was written. Do they like the songs? What can they hear? What are the songs about? How do the songs make you feel?

### Main Task:

As a class discuss what you might like to write a song about today. What features of your town, school, local area might you choose to include. What theme would the song have: work, school, leisure etc. In small groups develop ideas using the Lyric Writing sheet.

### Plenary:

With teacher help practise singing new songs, record and evaluate.

### Suggested Follow up and Extension Activities:

If you have chosen to write a song with a modern slant, link to local history and write an historic one.

Perform as part of an assembly and add movements and/or drama to your performance

Add tuned and/or untuned percussion to add texture and to illustrate features of your songs and sounds you might hear today or in the past ie: triangles to represent jangling looms etc

### Materials required:

MP3 recordings and lyrics to the original songs, on this website. **Lyric Writing** sheet.