

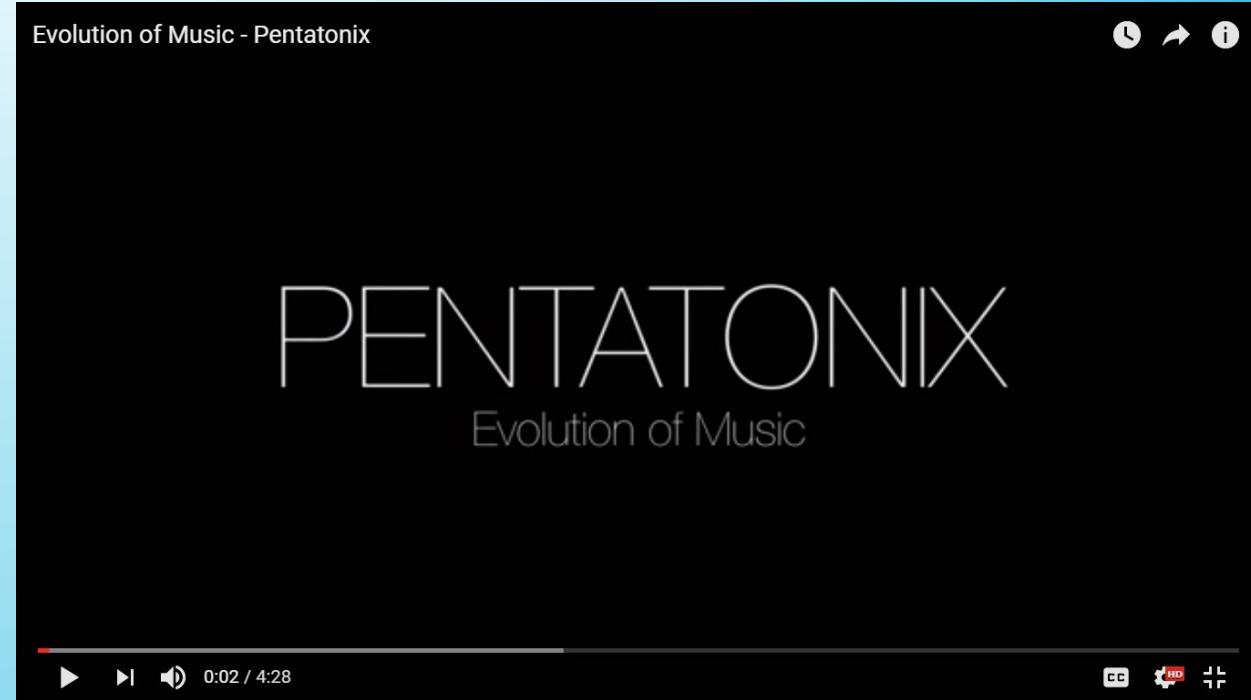
All Singing ... All The Time

1. Question & Research Task

A cappella has gained popularity over the years through musical groups, movies, and television. You may have heard of Pentatonix and Straight No Chaser, two of popular a cappella singing groups. Hollywood has produced shows like *Glee* and *The Sing-Off* and movies like *Pitch Perfect* as a result of a cappella's recent popularity. However, a cappella is not a new way of choral singing. A capella has actually been around for many centuries.

In this Slam Dunk, you will conduct brief, focused research to explore the history of a cappella, how it has evolved, and the different types of a cappella to respond to the over-arching inquiry question:

How is a cappella singing different from accompanied singing?



Watch this video from YouTube.

Image Source: www.youtube.org

2. Information Sources

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Use some of the information sources linked here as directed by your teacher to complete the Student Activity on Slide 3.

- [History of Song](#) (Accompanied Singing)
- History of A cappella: [World Book Advanced: "A cappella"](#)
- Types of [A cappella](#)



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Religious and Cultural Purposes	Barbershop	Doo Wop	Contemporary & Collegiate
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discovery Education: Music of the Middle Ages• Discovery Education: Polynesian Music• SIRS Discoverer: Benedict's Brothers (Plainsong) *See section under heading: THE BENEDICTINE'S MUSICAL STAFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discovery Education• World Book Advanced• Barbershop• History of Barbershop• Roots of Barbershop Harmony• Barbershop: In Perfect Harmony	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Doo Wop• Acapella Doo Wop• Doo-wop Music• Doo-wop Britannica• Harmony, Teenagers and the Complete History of Doo-Wop (NPR Podcast)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collegiate A cappella• The Right Notes• "The Hard Work and Close Bonds of Competitive College A cappella"

* If you are prompted to log in to access a database or digital content links, your teacher/librarian can provide login information.

3. Student Activity

Use the information sources on Slide 2 to create a timeline in order record notes which describe the evolution of a cappella.

- [Interactive Timeline](#) from ReadWriteThink.org
- Create your own timeline on paper
- [Timeline Template](#) from Google Docs
- Google Slides Presentation
(Have each slide be a different event for the timeline.)

You've learned that a cappella is choral singing without instrumental accompaniment. As you research, think about how a cappella singing is different from the accompanied singing often performed in class and at concerts.



Image Source: <https://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/timeline>

4. Assessment Activity

Select one of the types of a cappella. Use your timeline and/or this [graphic organizer](#) to create a multimedia presentation about the chosen type of a cappella.

Use one of the these tools to share information about the selected type of a cappella:

- VoiceThread
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Google Slides Presentation
- Digital Poster using **Discovery Education Studio**
- Other digital or non-digital tool approved by your teacher

Refer to success criteria on this [rubric](#) as you create your final product.

As you share your presentation with classmates, be ready to discuss your ideas in response to the inquiry question :

How is a cappella singing different from accompanied singing?



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Russian a cappella singing group, A'Cappella ExpreSSS, performing one of their original songs.

5. Enrichment Activities



Select the image above to watch a video from NBC Learn about the A cappella group, The Filharmonics.

Image Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6lG83zo5M8>

Want to learn more about a cappella?
Check out one of these activities:

- Check out [Varsity Vocals](#) about high school and collegiate competitions for contemporary a cappella.
- Meet the a cappella group [The Filharmonics](#) by video and reading an article from NBC News.
- Meet The Persuasions, an a cappella quartet by watching [this video](#) from Discovery Education.
- Learn about the African-American a cappella group Sweet Honey in the Rock in this [article](#) from PBS.
- View these websites:

[How to Sing A cappella](#)

[How to Sing A cappella](#)

After viewing the websites, form a group with classmates to arrange one of the songs from Choral Music class in an a cappella style. Record your performance using your computer.

6. Teacher Resources

Learning Standards Alignment

Maryland State Curriculum /Content Standards

Standard 7: Perceive and analyze artistic work.

Standard 8: Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.

Standard 9: Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

Standard 11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.

Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy

Reading: 1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

Writing: 7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

AASL Standards Framework for Learners Inquire: Build new knowledge by inquiring, thinking critically, identifying problems, and developing strategies for solving problems.

Think: Learners display curiosity and initiative by:

I.A.2 Recalling prior and background knowledge as context for new meaning.

Create: Learners engage with new knowledge by following a process that includes:

I.B.1 Using evidence to investigate questions. I.B.3 Generating products that illustrate learning.

Share: Learners adapt, communicate, and exchange learning products with others in a cycle that includes:

I.C.1 Interacting with content presented by others.

Grow: Learners participate in an ongoing inquiry-based process by:

I.D.2 Engaging in sustained inquiry.

P21 Framework: 21st Century Student Outcomes

3. Information, Media & Technology Skills: Information Literacy: Access information efficiently and effectively; Use information accurately and creatively for the issue or problem at hand.

ICT Literacy: Use technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate and communicate information.

Last updated: July 2022 Report broken links to BCPS Library Media Programs using the [Library Media Broken Links Form](#).

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Grade 6-8 Choral Music

Objective: Students will be conduct brief, focused research in order to discover the history and types of a cappella music.

Time Frame: 2 to 4 class periods

Differentiation strategies for this lesson:

Have students use learning supports provided in any [BCPS-licensed Digital Content](#) from the Apps Portal included in this lesson. Refer to [Digital Content Snapshots & Support resources](#) for guidance as needed.

Notes to the teacher:

- Collaborate with your school library media specialist to plan and implement this lesson.
- Consider [using the Schoology Assignment Apps feature](#) to assign Microsoft and Google documents and files for students to access, edit, and submit through Schoology.