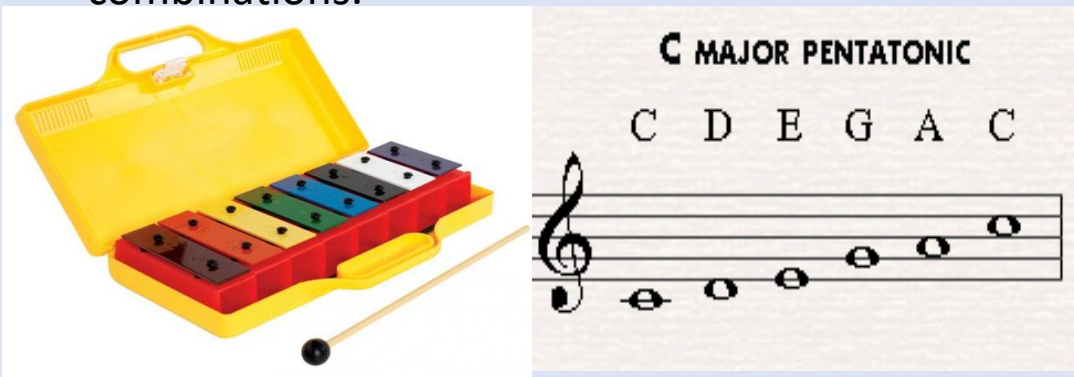


The Pentatonic Scale.

- This is a series of 5 notes (Penta = five, think of a pentagon which has 5 sides!)
- This pattern of 5 notes has been used in many folk and classical pieces of music and is used in many different musical traditions around the world.
- It is great for composing melodies or harmonies because all of the notes sound pleasant when played together, there are no clashing or jarring combinations.



It's easy to make up music using the C major pentatonic scale. Just take out the notes F and B from a set of chime bars and then have fun composing your melodies and harmonies.

Explore the differences between polar and desert regions using your own musical compositions and the pentatonic scale.



As you create your piece of music remember to think about:

Timbre	Which instruments will best reflect the landscape you have chosen?
Texture	How will you combine the instruments you have chosen to build up an interesting musical texture?
Dynamics	Choose your volumes carefully for each section of your piece. Will you change suddenly or gradually from one volume to another?
Structure	Is there a pattern to your piece? Are any of the motifs or musical ideas repeated? How does it end?
Tempo	Choose a steady speed for your piece that allows all players to keep to the pulse and play together. Does the tempo change at any point e.g. slow down towards the end?