

TASK 3

When students have identified the songs they would like to download, it is important to find a good website. I have chosen www.bigpondmusic.com. Bigpond is the Telstra website and has an additional site where the students can download free tracks. The students will have to sign up to the site using a current email address to access the songs. Also, students will have to access to a credit card to purchase the songs or purchase a prepaid card for a Telstra shop. The cards range in price, starting from \$10 and up. This is a great way to shop as it is pre paid any students can access and songs they like without going crazy with a credit card. It also offers financial security to the students if they are unsure about entering personal financial information on the Internet. The lesson is more about introducing students to the Internet as another form of shopping venues.

Sit students in pairs at the computer. You will have to guide them through the site and help them purchase the songs. The Bigpond website is easy to navigate and use. The students would type in their song selection into the box marked "Search" and hit "Enter". This will bring up a list of all the songs by that artist. Most songs on the website are priced between 99¢ and \$1.69.

For this lesson, I have chosen Elvis Presley. A popular choice for most people:

Under "Artists", I clicked on "Elvis Presley" and the website has listed 31 songs to chose from, all priced at \$1.69.

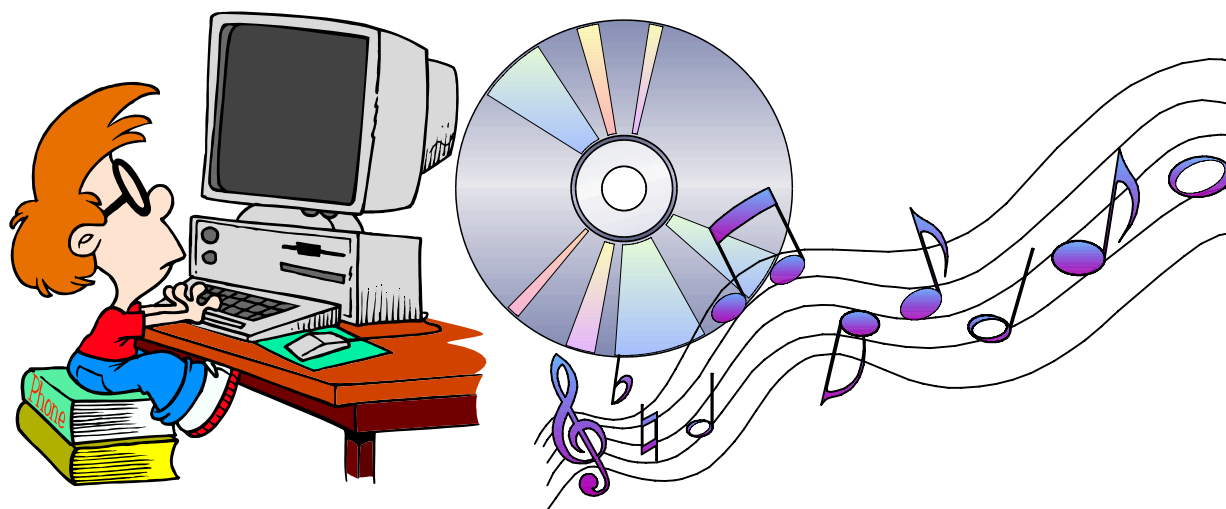
Allow the students to listen to a song of their choice or guide them to a class choice of song.

TASK 4

Use the song prices to create a numeracy worksheet eg.

- > What is the average number of songs on a CD?
- > How much does it cost to download one Elvis Presley song?
- > How much would it cost to download a 12 song Elvis Presley CD?
- > If it costs you \$21 to buy this CD from a music store would you pay more or less to buy it off the Internet? More / Less
- > How much more or less?

If you have any further questions regarding this topic, please email qcalau@yahoo.com.au



T U T O R S ' T I P S

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By Steph Jamroz

Times are a changing for literacy.

To be a literacy teacher these days, you also need to be an expert in the new technological wave of gadgets and gizmos. This edition of Tutor Tips focuses on the strange and sometimes confusing world of MP3 players and Ipods.

Do you remember the days of the record players? Or the introduction of the CD? I remember as a child playing tapes and recording the latest hits off the radio. Some people will remember A-Trax, 45s and the Walkman. Now kids are playing with Ipods and MP3 players that have no musical discs to speak of. All they do is download off the Internet their favourite bands or songs and away they go. The latest musical gadgetry can fit in your pocket and runs off the smallest of batteries. And they can fit up to and over a 1000 songs. Amazing, since it all came from the good old wireless.

In this Tip, I will navigate you through the various aspects of MP3 players and Ipods. Firstly, I describe the steps I took using the Internet to identify the difference between MP3 players and Ipods. Then I will outline a lesson on how to download music and the costs involved. It looks a lot harder than it actually is, and you will see how easy it can be.

Steps in identifying differences between media players:

- ▶ I selected google and typed in "mp3"
- ▶ I chose the wikipedia.com option as it is a general encyclopaedia about everything.
- ▶ I then read the description about mp3 players. It seemed to be in gobbledygook, but here is what I got from it.

MP3 players are a small audio machine that can hold songs. The songs must be in mp3 format to work. You can get these songs from the Internet and download them onto your mp3 player. Alternatively, you can copy CDs onto your computer and save them on an Mp3 player. Mp3 players can hold about 1000 songs and work similar to a CD player or tape deck. Just one that you can put in your pocket!

- ▶ Next I typed in the word "ipods"
- ▶ I found that Ipods are MP3 players made by Apple Computer. The only difference between MP3 players and Ipods is that you can put photos on an Ipod. Ipod is simply a brand name.



Courtesy of Apple.com

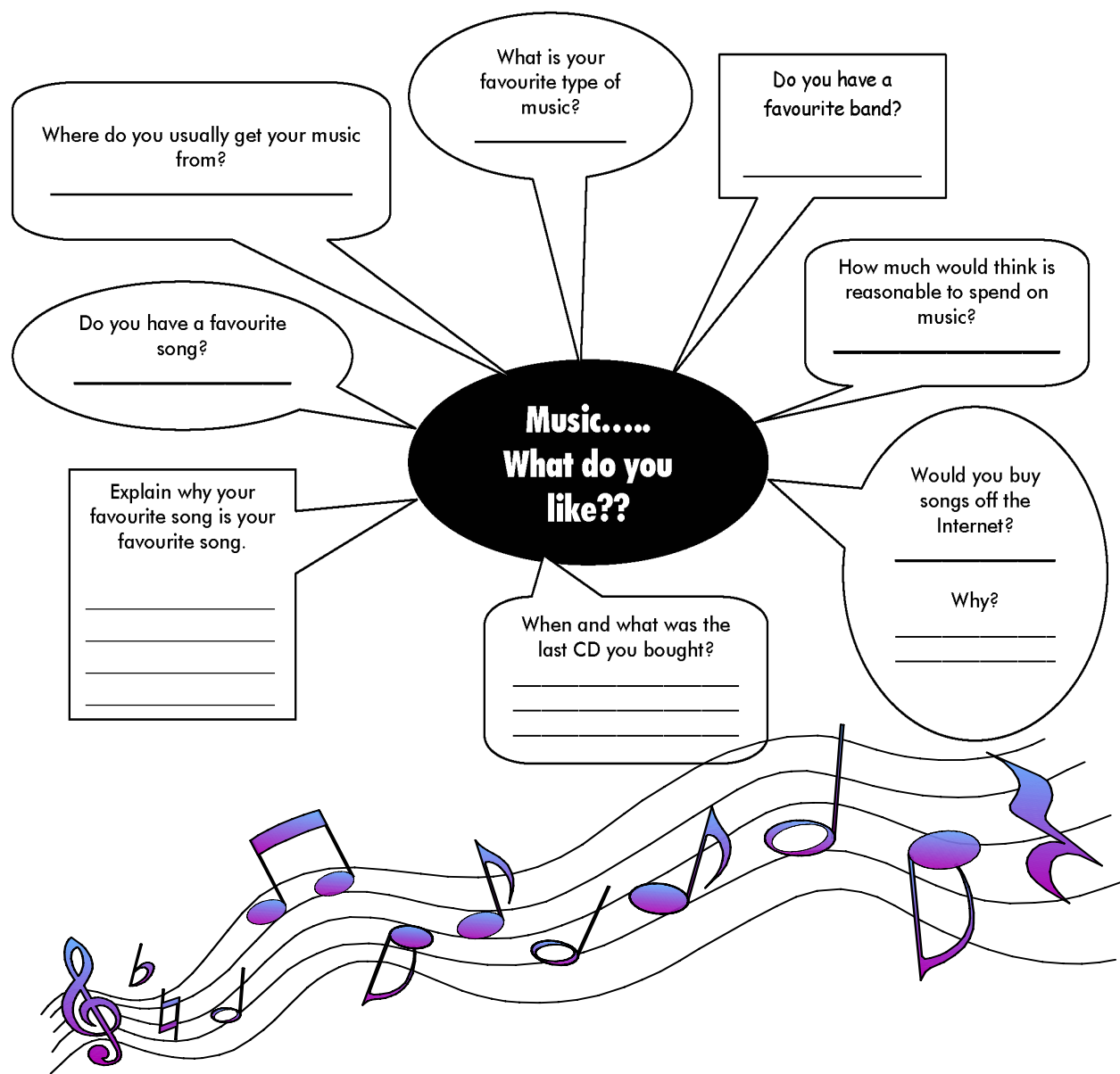
Incorporating MP3 players or Ipods into lessons

TASK 1

The first lesson is based on buying songs from the Internet using a range of literacy and numeracy skills.

The questions will be simple and the lesson will heavily based on oral communication.

I would begin the lesson with a discussion on music. Using the mind map below, discuss the bubbles listed with the students and help them fill in their answers. Most students will like a particular band, artist or music type. Having this discussion will help students to decide what songs that would like to buy over the Internet. It is a great incentive for students if you fill in their answers on the board. This will help stimulate discussion amongst the students.



TASK 2

The students should have filled out the discussion bubbles during Task 1. Using the following questions, pair the students up and let them fill in the answers by themselves. This task will lead into the final tasks of using the Internet to buy and download songs.

Shopping for Songs on the Internet

- Have you used the Internet for shopping?

- What type of things would you buy off the Internet?

- Would you consider buying music off the Internet?

- Would you buy CDs, downloadable songs or tapes off the Internet?

- Where on the Internet would you buy music? Do you know any sites?

- How much do you think you'd need to pay for music off the Internet?

- How much would you be willing to spend on music that you bought off the Internet?

- If you bought music off the Internet, how would you pay for it?

