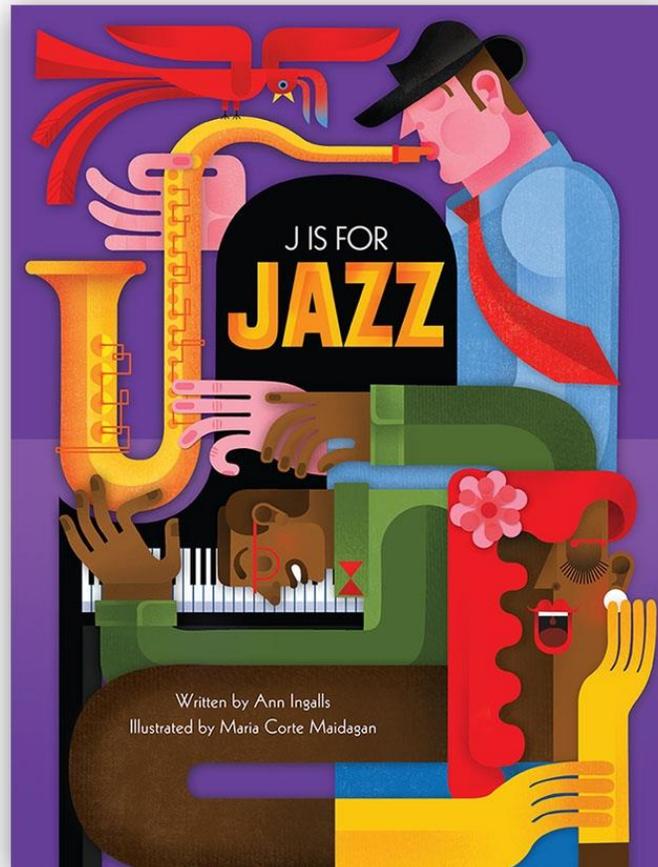


# Education Guide

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**Guide by Susie Henton**

# Language Arts

## Famous People

J is for Jazz mentions many different famous jazz musicians. Look through the text and make a list of the musicians. Find and write down at least one fact for each musician. This could be done as a class, in small groups, or individually. To extend the activity, use the internet to research and find more information on these amazing artists.

## What do You Hear?

Onomatopoeia is the formation of a word made by imitation of sound. The author uses the words “boom-cha-ka, plinkety, tic-bam-cling” to describe the sounds an instrument makes. Listen to a selection of jazz music and write down onomatopoeia words to describe what is heard.

## Hip Conversations

The world of jazz has its own language. Using the words found in the “Glossary of Jazz Slang” in the back of J is for Jazz write a sentence using the slang. Try carrying on a conversation using jazz slang. That would be just ducky!

*Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.*

*Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.*

*Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details.*

*Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.*

*Use adjectives and adverbs, and choose between them depending on what is to be modified.*

*Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, using formal English when appropriate to task and situation.*

# Math

## Instrument Scavenger Hunt

Look through J is for Jazz and make a tally mark for each piano, trumpet, drum and saxophone found. Use the tally marks to complete a bar graph. Be sure to give the graph a title.

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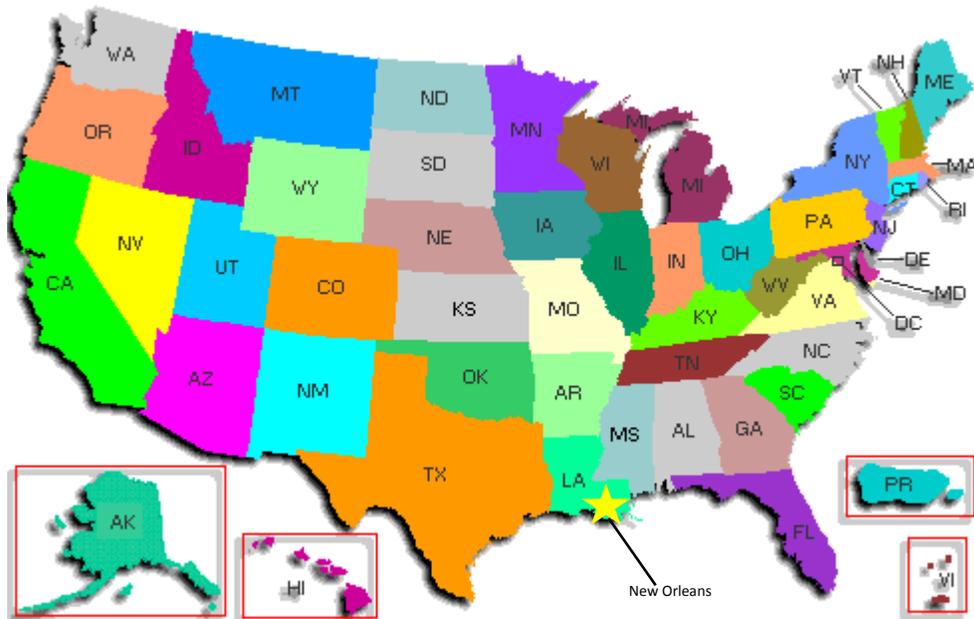
10				
9				
8				
7				
6				
5				
4				
3				
2				
1				
	Piano	Trumpet	Drum	Saxophone

Try making a pictograph, pie graph, or line plot instead

*Draw a scaled picture graph and a scaled bar graph to represent a data set with several categories*

# Geography

Jazz music was born New Orleans, Louisiana. Look in J is for Jazz for other cities where jazz is played or jazz musicians are from. Don't forget to look in "The Story of Jazz!" at the beginning of the book. After finding as many cities as you can, locate those cities on a map. What region of the country are they located in? (Southwest, Southeast, Northeast, Northwest, Midwest, West) Then locate the state you live in. Which cities are closest?



*Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).*

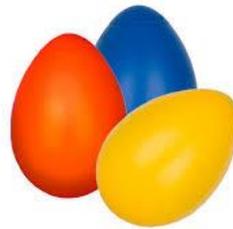
## Science

Improvisation is part of what makes jazz music different from other types of music. Changes in pitch, rhythm, and tempo are part of the music the musician makes up. Experiment with pitch and rhythm by trying the following activities:

### Egg Shakers

Materials Needed:

Plastic eggs (Easter Eggs)  
Popcorn, marbles, beans, pennies, beads, rice,  
sand, etc.  
Glue



Directions:

Decide what kind of sound you want your shaker to make. Separate your egg into 2 parts. Fill the bottom of the egg to the top with your chosen material. Put glue along the edge of the bottom half. Place the top half on the bottom half and let dry. Decorate the egg if desired.

Try filling other eggs with different materials. Do different materials make different sounds? Can you hear a difference in the pitch of the eggs? If you shake the egg fast or slow, hard or soft, is the sound different? Play with a partner and try to guess what material is in each egg.

## Harmonica

Materials Needed:

2 large craft sticks

3 rubber bands-1 wide, 2 narrow

straw – cut into 2 ½ in. long pieces



Directions:

Take the wide rubber band and stretch it lengthwise over one craft stick.



Insert one straw piece near one end under the rubber band.



Lay the second craft stick on top and wrap one of the narrow rubber bands around the end.



Lay a second straw piece on top of the wide rubber band at the opposite end. Secure with second narrow rubber band.



Blow between the craft sticks to make a sound. What happens when you slide one straw closer to the other one? Does the pitch change?

Use egg shakers and harmonica to make your own jazz jam session.

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J is for Jazz mentions many different instruments used in jazz music in its text and illustrations. The following activity explores those instruments:

### Instrument Sort

Look through the book and make a list of all the instruments the author mentions or you see in the illustrations. Don't forget to look in "The Story of Jazz!" at the beginning of the book. Then sort the instruments by how they make their sound.

Blowing	Striking	Stroking	Plucking

Or sort the instruments by the instrument family.

Brass	String	Woodwind	Percussion

*Plan and conduct investigations to provide evidence that vibrating materials can make sound and that sound can make materials vibrate.*

*Make observations to provide evidence that energy can be transferred from place to place by sound, light, heat, and electric currents.*

## **Just for Fun**

Instead of writing the letter of the alphabet on each page, the illustrator incorporated the letter into the illustration. While reading the book, have the children locate the letter on each page. After reading the book, choose a letter and glue it onto a piece of paper. Then turn the letter into something else. It could become an animal, plant, toy, vehicle, or an imaginary creature. Or draw the letter and incorporate it into the illustration. This activity can be done using crayons or markers, paper scraps or other materials.