

SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

April 2016



Calling all Teachers!!!

Free Teacher Twilight Training session

On Wednesday 11th May 2016 4pm-7pm



The Living Rainforest will be hosting an exclusive sneak peek of our newest educational offering - a brand new Rainforest Music outreach workshop.

It's a free event for teachers so please join us and experience what we believe will be a hugely successful programme of music workshops for children. For those that have not experienced our rainforest tours we will also run guided tours through the evening showcasing our onsite learning sessions.

Professional musician Max Hunt is working with the Living Rainforest to give students (and teachers!) the opportunity to explore the global music and culture of the tropical world from Central & South America to Africa, India, Asia and Indonesia. The sessions link to the National Curriculum for Key stages 1&2 supporting learning outcomes for music as well as supporting the 'Human Geography' outcomes for the Geography curriculum.

The workshops are split into 3 sections.

A) Introduction to Rainforest culture and music

Beginning with a discussion on the geographical distribution and habitat characteristics of Tropical Rainforests and then presenting examples of music from a variety of different cultures inhabiting the world's rainforests.

B) Demonstration of Instruments.

This includes the demonstration of instruments from Central and South America, Africa, Asia & Indonesia including discussion about the origins, cultural significance and uses of these instruments which handed around the class for students to try.



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C) Rainforest Music Recording Session

Recording session features group and individual sessions on a wide variety of instruments which are all easy to play without any prior experience or musical knowledge. Each recording session is then edited and mixed together with pre-recorded Rainforest sound effects and can be provided to all participants on CD and /or via email as an MP3 file.

More about Max.

Max Hunt is a professional musician, producer and tutor with 30+ years of professional experience. He has performed live and on many varied studio projects and plays Piano, Keyboards, Piano Accordion, Guitar, Percussion and sings lead and backing vocals.

Max set up Force Ten Productions in 1993 running private teaching and workshop services including running a series of Ethnic Percussion workshops for BTEC and A Level performing arts students at Newbury College and The Clere School. Max also composed and performed music for several A Level performing arts department productions at Newbury College.

Max's interest in rainforest culture and music started in the 1980s after purchasing a set of Javanese Angklung and a Vietnamese Khene from Oxfam. Concern about the worrying destruction of rainforests around the globe was gaining widespread media attention at the time and gave rise to promotion and a deeper understanding of tropical rainforest culture. Around the same time Max became Musical Director of The Newbury Fringe Festival Company and for a period of 4 years booked regular World Music acts from Peter Gabriel's Real World Music Agency to perform at venues in and around Newbury. Having initially worked together with other percussionists on workshops, Max owns a collection of tropical rainforest instruments from different cultures around the globe and has successfully run a number of rainforest themed music workshops with The Living Rainforest.

For more details or to book a session please call the education department on 01635 202444 ext. 205

Images (clockwise from top) The Javanese Anklung and Vietnamese Khene which sparked Max's interest in Rainforest Music , a set of African Djembi drums, assorted percussion and a Berimbau, used by Brazilian tribes.

