# The Elements of Music

| RHYTHM: Pattern of sounds (duration)     |
|--|
| STRUCTURE: How a piece is put together   |
| PITCH: High or low sounds                |
| TEMPO: The speed                         |
| INSTRUMENTS: Things we play music on     |
| SILENCE: Rests / absence of sound        |
| DYNAMICS: Volume                         |
| TIMBRE: Sound quality                    |
| TEXTURE: How a piece of music is layered |
|  |



# **Instruments of the Orchestra**

#### **String Family:**

Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Harp **Key terms:** 

Pizzicato, Arco



#### **Brass Family:**

Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Tuba

**Key terms:** 

Razz / Buzz, Valves, Slide



# **Woodwind Family:**

Piccolo, Flute, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe, Bassoon, Double Bassoon

#### **Key terms:**

Keys, No Single reed, reed



reed, Double

## **Percussion Family:**

Piano, Xylophone, Timpani/Kettle drums, Snare, Tambourine, Bells Maracas, Bass Drum, Cymbals

#### **Key terms:**

Tuned, Un-tuned, Shake, Hit, Scrape



### **RHYTHM NOTATION:**

| Sign | Name       | Relative Length | In <sup>4</sup> /4 Time | Rest |
|------|------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------|
| o    | Semibreve  | Whole note      | 4 beats                 | _    |
|      | Minim      | Half note       | 2 beats                 | -    |
| J    | Crotchet   | Quarter note    | 1 beat                  | ₹    |
| ♪    | Quaver     | Eighth note     | $1/_2$ beat             | 7    |
| 1    | Semiquaver | Sixteenth note  | 1/4 beat                | 7    |