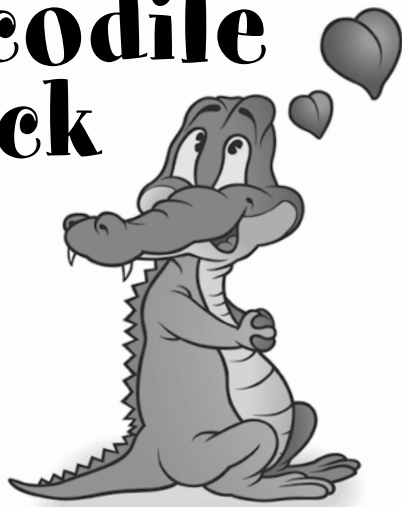


5

# Crocodile Rock



Fact file:  
**Music by Elton John**  
 Words by Bernie Taupin  
 Album: Don't Shoot Me I'm Only  
 The Piano Player.  
 When: 1973  
 Style: Rock 'n' Roll


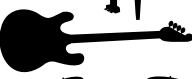






**Interesting fact:**

Bob The Builder did a copy of this song on his first album! (It must be good).



**Instruments:**

- Piano..... 
- Bass Guitar..... 
- Drums..... 
- Vocals..... 
- Guitar..... 
- Keyboard effects.... 



**Questions:**

What do you think the song is about?  
 - Is it about a crocodile?

What is your favourite bit?  
 - Why did you like that?

What does it make you feel like doing?



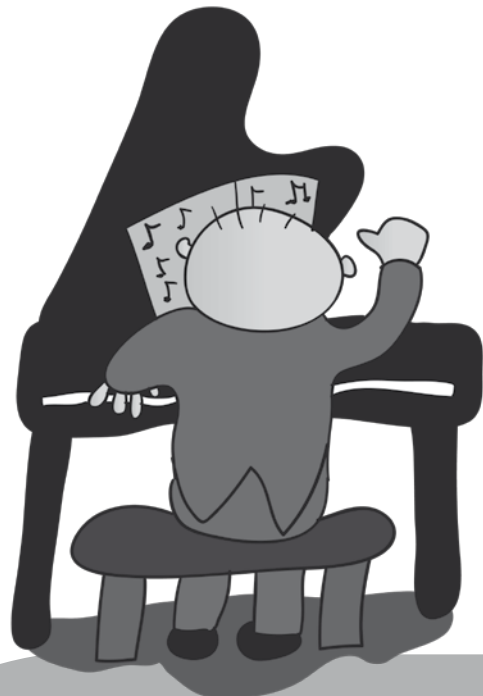
**Creative questions:**

If a crocodile could dance – what would it look like?

Do you think crocodiles would like Rock 'n' Roll or some other style of music?

**The Story:**

Elton John's real name was Reginald Kenneth Dwight! But he changed it because Elton John was cooler! Elton John is a very clever man. He not only writes his own songs but he also sings and plays the piano. In his live concerts he always has a grand piano on stage which he plays most of the time. It is very difficult to play and sing at the same time. He has sold over 250 million records and has had over 50 Top 40 hits, making him one of the most successful musicians of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In the early days Elton was known for his weird outfits and his very large oversized glasses that he used to wear on stage.



## Stuff to do:

- 1 **Create a "Crocodile Rock" dance.**  
You will need to use some crocodile dancing techniques and also some 1950's Rock 'n' Roll dance moves.  
Your teacher will give you more instructions.
- 2 **Here are some of the songs Elton John has written.**  
How many can you sing?

Can you Feel the Love Tonight  
Hakuna Matata  
Rocket Man  
I'm Still Standing  
Sorry Seems to be the Hardest Word  
Crocodile Rock

Candle in the Wind  
Your Song  
Don't let the sun go down on me  
Don't Go Breaking my Heart  
Circle of Life  
Kiss the Bride

- 3 **Research project:**  
Find out what these things are-

Chevy:

---



---

Skimming stones:

---



---

Record machine:

---



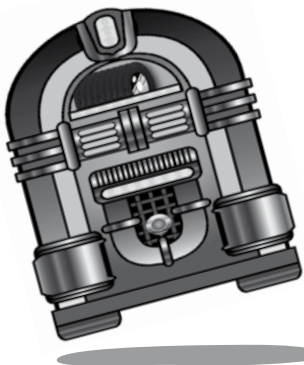
---

Old blue jeans:

---



---



## Teacher stuff:

### Questions:

What do you think it is about?

- Remembering when he was young.
- It is about a dance he did with his girlfriend called Suzie?

Is it about a crocodile?

- No.
- The dance is called the 'Crocodile Rock'.

What is your favourite bit?

- Aim for sentences - not just - "the beat".
- Maybe the bridge Laaa La la la la laaa section?
- Try and train them into a 'because' sentence.

Why did you like that?

- This is the important one - try and get them to say why they liked that.

What does it make you feel like doing?

- Hopefully they will say dancing or singing which is exactly how it is supposed to make you feel.

### Creative Questions:

If a crocodile could dance - what would it look like?

- You have to make them demonstrate!

Do you think crocodiles would like Rock 'n' roll or some other style of music?

- ??

### Stuff to do:

Create a Crocodile Rock dance.

Options:

- You may just like to use the chorus.
- Different groups create different sections.
- Individual or small groups.
- If you do this it would be great to perform it as well.
- Show them a couple of basic rock 'n' roll dance moves first or just wait to see what they come up with.

**Here are some of the songs Elton John has written:**

How many can you sing - this can be a great game!

Options:

- Get them in pairs for a few minutes then have a competition.
- Give 2 points for singing words, 1 for humming.
- If you can get hold of a 'Best of Elton John' CD you could play these tunes to them.

**Find out what the following things are:**

This section could just be a 'what do you think' questions or a 'go home and ask' for homework or a look up or whatever you feel like really. Either way it is an introduction to research.

**Chevy:** 1950's convertible car - very cool for young guys.

**Skimming stones:** when you get a flat stone by the beach or river and skim it along so it bounces along the top of the water.

**Record machine:** Records (Vinyl) were old kinds of CD's and the record machine was a record player in the corner - like a juke box that plays the songs you request. You put money in and it plays you a song.

**Old blue jeans:** Jeans - trousers.

