LET'S GET JAZZED!

In *Soul*, middle-school band teacher Joe Gardner pours his heart into his passion—jazz. Read on to learn about jazz and its history.

Jazz is a kind of music that expresses different emotions. It is played all over the world. But did you know jazz got its start in the United States?

In the early 1900s, jazz was created by African Americans in New Orleans, Louisiana. Jazz traces its roots to music from Africa. It grew out of ragtime, blues, slave songs, spirituals, and other types of music, including marches and opera.

A unique part of jazz is called "improvisation." That is when musicians make up their interpretation of a tune on the spot. Jazz musicians use improvisation to develop their own sounds and styles.

Jazz can be sung or played on many different instruments. For example, you can hear jazz played on the saxophone, trumpet, drums, guitar, and piano.

By the 1920s, jazz had spread to places like Chicago and New York City and soon became popular across the U.S. and around the world. This period became known as the Jazz Age.

Over time, new styles of jazz were born. In the 1930s, big band jazz was called swing music. People liked to dance to it. In the 1940s, a new style of jazz called bebop emerged. From rock to hip hop, jazz has even influenced music we listen to today.

Now, read the clues below. Then, unscramble the answers.

1. A popular jazz instrument

AONOXPEHS __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

2. The city where jazz was created

WNE ROSALNE __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

3. One type of music that contributed to jazz

SULBE __ __ __ __ __

4. When jazz musicians make up their own interpretation of a tune

OITNSAIRMIPOV __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

5. What the 1920s is called

ZJZA EAG __ __ __ __ __ __ __

6. Jazz music played by the big bands

GINWS __ __ __ __ __

THINK ABOUT IT
How does jazz encourage creativity and self-expression?