

Trend task



Musical Instruments

Approach: Station

Level: Year 4 and year 8

Focus: Associating the sounds of musical instruments with pictures of them.

Resources: Video recording on laptop computer.

<i>Questions/instructions:</i>		% responses				% responses	
		2000 ('96)	2000 ('96)			2000 ('96)	2000 ('96)
		year 4	year 8	year 4	year 8	year 4	year 8
1							
5		music 5	45 (44)	78 (79)			
3		music 3	27 (31)	26 (22)			
7		music 7	21 (32)	51 (68)			
2		music 2	85 (85)	96 (97)			
4							
		music 4	42 (58)	80 (92)			
6		music 6	71 (69)	92 (92)			

Commentary:

For most instruments, year 8 students performed substantially better than year 4 students. The exception was for the guitar music selection, where a classical guitar piece fooled many of the students into identifying the instrument as a banjo. Unfortunately, a small change in the task between 1996 and 2000 makes the trend analysis unreliable, the size of the picture of the violin was increased in 2000. This clearly made it harder for students to distinguish the cello and violin. On the other instruments, there is no clear trend from 1996 to 2000.