

A Christmas carol is a song that focuses on the religious aspect of Christmas. So it could tell the story of the birth of Jesus, mention God or be about how Christians celebrate Christmas.

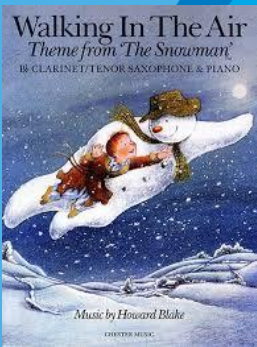


Use the QR code to listen to The Sussex Carol.

# Musician

Making Connections ...

## Christmas Carols



There are many other pieces of Christmas music. Use the QR code to listen to Walking in the Air.



In the past, when only wealthy people received an education, many people couldn't read. Christmas carols were an important way of helping people learn the Christmas story. The lyrics (words) and music of Christmas carols were sometimes written by different people. The lyrics might have started off as a poem rather than a song. Because lots of carols were written a long time ago, some of the words are old fashioned.

Christmas carols were usually written to be played on a church organ and sung by a choir as well as a church **congregation**. Some carols have a descant. This is a different, higher tune that complements the main **melody**. It is usually sung during the last verse.

# of the Month

Use the QR code to listen to 'Once in Royal David's City'.



The lyrics to 'Once in Royal David's City' were written by a woman named Cecil Frances Alexander, who wrote many other well-known hymns. The carol tells the story of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, also known as David's City. It also talks about Christians hoping to one day see Jesus when they go to heaven.



Use the QR code to listen to O Holy Night.

