

Monteverdi Gloria for 8 voices M 9

Lay the foundations for learning about minor scales by finding out about modes

A keyboard would be useful for this activity

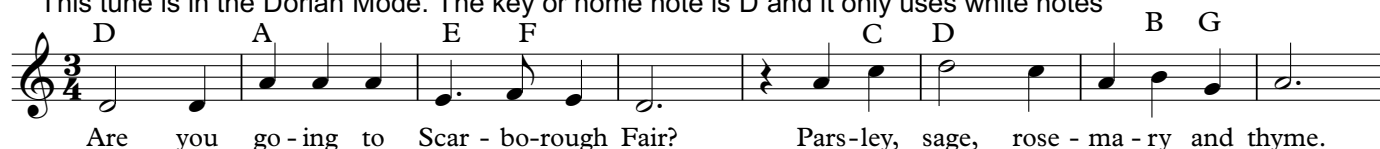
But first - the answers to the questions on Activity Sheet 8

2. D major, A minor, G minor, D minor 3. Bar 121 A minor, Bar 126 F major, Bar 129 G major, Bar 134 A major

For hundreds of years before the time of Monteverdi, the scales used for music were called modes. A 14th century composer wouldn't have used the terms major and minor, but would have known all about the modes. Modes only use white notes, but they can use any of the white notes as their key or home note. Some composers still use modes now, and we've got quite a lot of tunes that are modal, especially in folk music. We're so familiar with them, that we often don't notice they are a bit different.

Here are three tunes each in different modes. You're bound to know the first and third. If you don't know the second, and aren't sure about reading the music, there are lots of versions on Youtube. In Activity 10, you'll be doing a note count, so, in case you aren't confident about the note names, they are written in each time a note comes for the first time. These tunes have come down the aural tradition - don't worry that the rhythms may not be the same as the versions in your ear. For this activity, it's the pitches that we're interested in. Enjoy singing / playing the tunes to get the feel of the modes.

This tune is in the Dorian Mode. The key or home note is D and it only uses white notes



Are you go-ing to Scar-bo-rough Fair? Pars-ley, sage, rose-ma-ry and thyme.



Re-mem-ber me to one who lives there. She once was a true love of mine.

This tune is in the Aeolian Mode. The key or home note is A and it only uses white notes



I will give my love an ap-ple with-out there a core. I will give my love a house with-

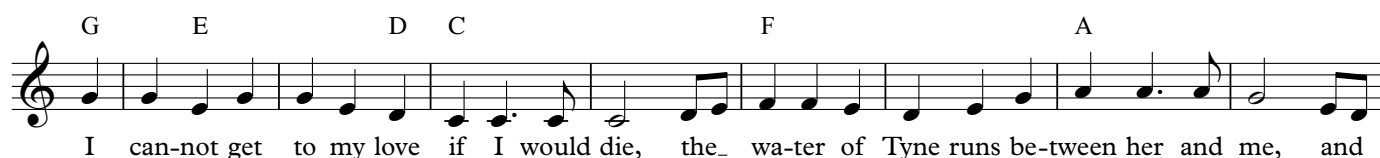


out a-ny door. I will give my love a pa-lace where-in s/he may



be, and s/he may un-lock it with-out a-ny key.

The final tune in this activity is in the Ionian Mode, otherwise known as C major. C is the key or home note



I can-not get to my love if I would die, the wa-ter of Tyne runs be-tween her and me, and



here I must stand with a tear in my eye, both sigh-ing and sick-ly my sweet-heart to see.