





Who Am I? African American Musicians

Directions: Read each description below. Then, use books and digital research tools to help you match the musician to the description. Cut and paste the musician's image and name to the correct description. Then, conduct further research using the directions below.

Answer Sheet

Research Directions:

- Research an African American musician online and/or by finding books at the library.
- Next, create a blog, piece of writing, poster, or art to teach others about what you learned.

<p>I was born in Philadelphia, and grew up in Baltimore where jazz was very popular. I became a superstar in the 1930s. I had a unique style and a soulful voice. I was never trained on how to sing and I never learned how to read music, but I still became a successful musician. One of my most famous songs is called "Strange Fruit."</p>	<p>Billie Holiday</p> 
<p>I was a legendary musician, and many people called me The Genius. I was a leader in soul music in the 1950s. I combined blues, rhythm and blues, and gospel styles in my music. I started losing my vision when I was six years old because I had a disease called glaucoma. I played the alto saxophone and the piano. "Georgia on My Mind" is one of my popular songs.</p>	<p>Ray Charles</p> 
<p>I was a singer, songwriter, and civil rights activist. I also was a business owner. I started a record label and publishing company. Some of my famous hits are "You Send Me" and "Twistin' the Night Away." I am known as the King of Soul because I had a natural and smooth singing voice.</p>	<p>Sam Cooke</p> 
<p>I was a jazz singer, and sometimes people call me the First Lady of Song or the Queen of Jazz. I had a special sound in my singing called scat. I could sing very high notes and very low notes. I won many awards and sang with many great musical legends. In my lifetime, I recorded more than 200 songs. One of my famous songs is "Dream A Little Dream of Me."</p>	<p>Ella Fitzgerald</p> 



Ella Fitzgerald



Billie Holiday



Sam Cooke



Ray Charles

