

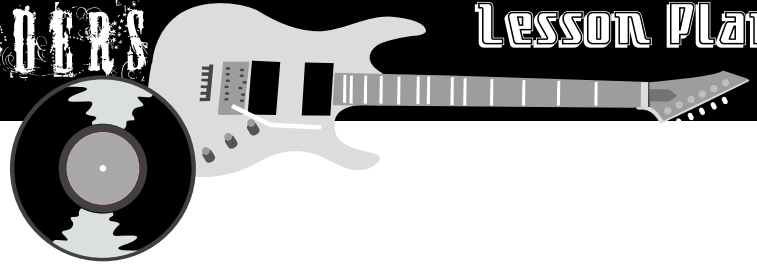
## Lesson Ideas

- Make a class book of One Hit Wonders. Have each student profile a different artist, including a brief biography, a photo from the internet and a description of their hit song. Then compile them into a book for display in the school library. Artists could be sourced from lists in the Internet Resources section or the Suggested Listening list (see below).
- Put the timer on for two minutes and see how many One Hit Wonders the class can list. For an extra challenge, categorize the list according to story songs, novelty songs, dance music, etc.
- Divide the class into two teams. Each team in turn is given the chance to sing (or say) the first verse or chorus of a One Hit Wonder song whose title is read out. If they are unable to finish, the other team gets the opportunity to finish it and score points.
- Pick an artist from the Fun Sheet and find out where they are now.
- Find the names of the hits by each artist in the word search.

## Suggested Listening List

Listen to a song by a One Hit Wonder and discuss the characteristics, or circumstances that make it popular. You could also discuss the topic of whether One Hit Wonders or even hits in general are all “good” music. Are there any factors which can make a second-rate song a hit?

Tommy Tutone - *867-5309/Jenny*  
The Rembrandts - *I'll Be There For You* - theme from *Friends*  
Paper Lace - *The Night Chicago Died*  
Rupert Holmes - *Escape (Pina Colada Song)*  
The Vogues - *Five O'Clock World*  
Strawberry Alarm Clock - *Incense and Peppermints*  
Dexy's Midnight Runners - *Come On Eileen*  
Wall of Voodoo - *Mexican Radio*  
Eddie Grant - *Electric Avenue*  
Frijid Pink - *House of the Rising Sun*  
Lipps Inc - *Funkytown*  
The Vapors - *Turning Japanese*  
Billy Ray Cyrus - *Achy Breaky Heart*  
Chumbawamba - *Tubthumping*  
The Knack - *My Sharona*  
Falco - *Rock Me Amadeus*  
Buggles - *Video Killed the Radio Star*  
Jimmy Eat World - *The Middle*  
Eifel 65 - *Blue (Da Ba Dee)*  
The Hollywood Argyles - *Alley-Oop*  
Deep Blue Something - *Breakfast At Tiffanys*  
4 Non Blondes - *What's Up*  
Frankie Smith - *Double Dutch Bus*  
Toni Basil - *Mickey*  
Blind Melon - *No Rain*  
Mountain - *Mississippi Queen*  
Jaggerz - *The Rapper*



## Internet Resources

<http://www.onehitwondercentral.com/> - A great list of One Hit Wonders sorted by decade

[http://www.vh1.com/shows/the\\_greatest/episode.jhtml?episodeID=151324](http://www.vh1.com/shows/the_greatest/episode.jhtml?episodeID=151324) - VH1's "100 Greatest One Hit Wonders of the 80's"

## YouTube Links

You can use your own recordings or view videos and get audio links to these pieces from:

[http://www.funmusicco.com/private/pmlp3\\_resources/](http://www.funmusicco.com/private/pmlp3_resources/)