

Teacher Info Sheet: Isle Of Tune

LINKS

- [Isle of Tune website link](#)
- iPads and other tablets: open a browser and visit the above link
- iPad users can also [download the app version](#) (it's a paid app and has more features than the website version)

Feature	Yes	No
Saving and exporting work		
Students can save a link to their completed work ("share")	●	
Students can save their piece and come back to it later*	●	
Export WAV or MP3 file		●
Export MIDI file		●
Login		
Students are required to login with an email address		●
Advertising		
Is the site ad-free?	●	
Appropriate for which ages?		
K-6 (12 and under)*	●	
7-9 (13+)	●	
Works on which devices?		
Mac and PC	●	
Chromebooks	●	
iPads (you will need to use the paid app version)	●	

***Please see notes about saving and sharing below**

A NOTE ABOUT USING ISLE OF TUNE ON IPADS

The online website version of Isle of Tune is flash-based so it will not work on iPads.

However, there is [a paid app](#) that has been made especially for iPads and iPhones which has a few different features to the website version.

THE ISLE OF TUNE SCREEN



What the buttons do

The screenshot shows the 'Duck Land' game interface. At the top, there's a 'WELCOME TO Duck Land' banner with a 'Vote' section showing up and down arrows. To the left is a 'TOP 10' button, and to the right is a 'RANDOM ISLAND' button. A 'Maximise window' button is in the top right corner. Below the banner, there's a row of buttons: 'GO' (a green octagon), 'Road' (a road icon), 'Cars' (a car icon), a group of five circular icons representing different sounds (a car, a house, a tree, a car, a car), a 'Delete' button (a trash can icon), a 'SHARE' button, and three buttons labeled 'LOOPS', 'SAVE LOAD', and 'NEW'. Callouts with lines pointing to these buttons explain their functions: 'Vote up or down - have your say on other islands' points to the 'Vote' section; 'A collection of pre-built sequences to get started' points to the 'LOOPS' button; 'Maximise window' points to the window control button; 'Toggle cars play/stop' points to the 'GO' button; 'Road' points to the 'Road' button; 'Cars' points to the 'Cars' button; 'These objects generate sounds as a car passes by' points to the group of five sound icons; 'Delete' points to the 'Delete' button; 'Share your island using Twitter, Facebook or email' points to the 'SHARE' button; 'Save your island to work on later' points to the 'SAVE LOAD' button; and 'Clear the island to start afresh' points to the 'NEW' button.

How to alter sounds

Click on an object to display the object panel, here you can customise individual sounds and appearance



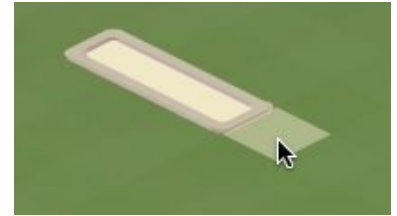
- (A) Choose a sound for this object
- (B) Adjust the volume
- (C) Set sound to play instantly, with delay or a double hit
- (D) Clone this object, replicating these settings
- (E) Delete this object

Tips

- ✂ For random sounds, hold down shift when adding objects
- ✂ Watch to see which parts of the ground light up when a car drives around to figure out where objects should be placed to trigger a sound
- ✂ Pre-built loops will overwrite objects already placed so be careful where you are putting them!
- ✂ Click on junctions to change the course of passing cars
- ✂ Islands containing offensive words and shapes will be removed. Click on the flag button if you find something inappropriate.

HOW TO CREATE MUSIC USING USING ISLE OF TUNE

1. Lay down some road



2. Add houses, plants or lamp posts along the road (there are extra options on the iPad app version)



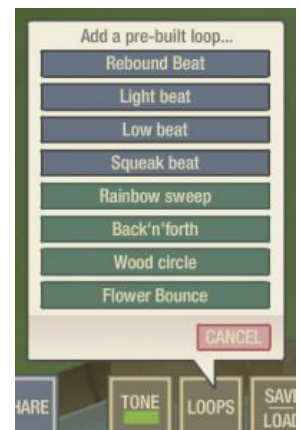
3. Place a car on the road

4. Press Go. As the car drives past each element on the road it will make a rhythmic or melodic sound. At the end of the road, it turns around and plays your creation in retrograde :)



OTHER TIPS

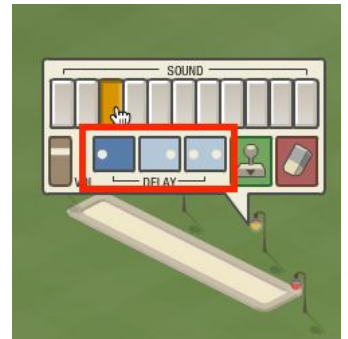
- You can use pre-made loops: click on the **Loops** button and select a loop from the menu. Click in an empty space on the island (you'll see a preview of the loop size when you hover your mouse over the island) to add the loop to your composition. Place a car on the pre-made loop and click **Go** to hear it play



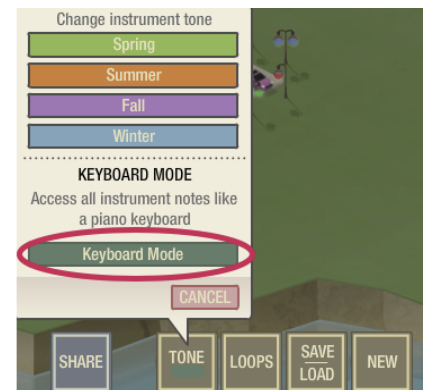
- Click on any of the sound-producing objects to change the pitch or playback sound



- Click on any of the sound-producing objects to access rhythmic settings



- Scale settings: there are 5 different options which can be accessed by clicking on the **Tone** button (I think it would be better if it was named “Scale” instead of Tone!)
 - The Summer, Spring, Winter and Fall options are all variations on the pentatonic scale (for instance, Summer is the major pentatonic scale starting on doh, whereas Winter is the minor pentatonic scale)
 - Access a full chromatic scale by clicking on the **Keyboard Mode** option



SAVING AND SHARING ON COMPUTERS

Although students are able to **Save** or **Share** their work in Isle of Tune there are some limitations you should be aware of before using Isle of Tune with your students:

About saving on computers (this does not apply to the iPad app version)

- Saving** allows them to come back later on to continue working on their creation. HOWEVER - the website saves the piece via the browser’s cookies and there are limited saving “slots” (only 3)
- This means that if students are using their own laptops, saving in this way will probably be ok, as long as the student doesn’t clear their browser history/cookies/cache between music classes
- I would not recommend relying on this saving method if your students are using shared computers in a school lab or from a cart. The main reason is that they would need to go back to the **exact** same computer in order to access their work and you would need to rely on the fact that no one had cleared the browser history between music classes (risky...!). If you are using shared computers, it would be best to use it for creative compositions that can be completed during one lesson

How to save

- Make sure you have named your Isle of Tune creation at the top of the screen
- Click on the **Save/Load** button



- Click on the save icon (floppy disk) next to an empty slot. Your song title should appear next to the icon

Loading a saved Isle of Tune creation

- Students need to go back to the computer they were working on, and open the Isle of Tune website
- Click on the Save/Load button and select the saved piece they would like to load

Sharing Isle of Tune creations (a note for teachers of students aged 12 and under)

- Once students have finished working on their Isle of Tune pieces, they can optionally share their work by clicking on the Share button and copying the link (which they can then save somewhere or send to their teacher)
- Sharing this way also makes their work public so it may not be suitable for those of you working with students who are aged 12 and under

SAVING AND SHARING ON IPADS

The iPad app version allows you to save many more Isle of Tune songs than the computer/desktop version (which is limited to 3).

- Tap the Tools button at top right to make the hidden menu items appear
- Tap the **Save** (or **Save As**) button
- Give your song a title and tap **Save**

Loading a saved Isle of Tune creation

- Students need to go back to the iPad they were working on, and open the Isle of Tune app
- Click on the Load button and select the saved piece they would like to load

Sharing (a note for teachers of students aged 12 and under)

- Once students have finished working on their Isle of Tune pieces, they can optionally share their work by clicking on the **Share** button
- Sharing this way makes their work public so it may not be suitable for those of you working with students who are aged 12 and under