One of the reasons that a particular piece of music sounds the way it does has to do with the group of notes the composer decided to use.

Take this melody, for example... let's first remove all the duplicate notes, regardless of which octave they're in.

Next, let's put the notes in alphabetical order, starting on the note that the melody sounded like it was centring on.

What we end up with is the "palette" for this particular piece...

Like the board on which a painter holds the bits of paint being used in the painting being created.

In music, this "palette" is called a scale. Though we usually write scales from low to high, the order is actually unimportant; it's the notes contained in the scale that help make a piece sound the way it does.

This particular arrangement, where semitones occur between steps three and four and between steps seven and eight (or between seven and one, since eight and one are the same note), is called the major scale.

Knowing this formula, you can create a major scale on any note!

The F major scale

The B major scale

The D flat major scale

The G flat major scale

But remember... with great power comes great responsibility!