Diamonds – Rihanna - Notes

- **Activity types:** vowel sounds, gap fill, vocabulary.
- **Level:** Elementary / Pre-Intermediate
- **Note:** This was the first single from Rihanna’s seventh album Unapologetic, released in 2012. The song became a Number One in nineteen countries.

1) Ask students to name their favourite Rihanna song. Tell them they are going to listen to the song Diamonds – elicit the words Shine bright like a diamond. Ask them if they know what kind of word ‘bright’ is.
   **Key:** a flat adverb - according to Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary of Modern Usage this is “an adverb that has the same form as its related adjective”. Brightly is also correct.

2) Ask them to guess how many times Rihanna says this phrase in the song. Play the song and let them count. **Key:** 24

3) Give each student a copy of the worksheet and ask them to cross out the word with a different sound. **Key:** 1. give, 2. sound, 3. felt, 4. eyes

4) Ask them to look at the lyrics and guess which words go in which gap. They should be able to guess this from the context.
   **Key:** see complete lyrics.

5) Play the song, students check and correct the previous activity, and sing along.

6) Ask them to work alone or in pairs to complete the vocabulary activity.
   **Key:** 1. shine
   2. choose
   3. ecstasy
   4. to rise
   5. shooting
   6. to hold

7) Explain any other vocabulary. Note that moonshine is a kind of drink and molly is a kind of drug.

8) Sing the song together.
Cross out the word that has a different sound:

1. shine  alive  eyes  give
2. choose  blue  sound  moon
3. felt  knew  few  you
4. eyes  rays  face  race

Listen to the song and complete the text with the words below:

Shine bright like a diamond
Shine bright like a diamond

Find light in the beautiful sea
I _______ to be happy
You and I, you and I
We’re like diamonds in the sky

You’re a shooting star I see
A vision of ecstasy
When you _______ me, I’m alive
We’re like diamonds in the sky

I _______ that we’d become one right away
Oh, right away
At first sight I _______ the energy of sun rays
I saw the life inside your eyes

So shine bright, tonight you and I
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
Eye to eye, so _______
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky

Shine bright like a diamond
Shine bright like a diamond
Shine bright like a diamond
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky

Repeat previous verse

Palms _______ to the universe
As we moonshine and molly
Feel the _______ we’ll never die
We’re like diamonds in the sky

Find words from the text that have the following meanings:

1. to give out a bright light
2. to pick out the best of two or more alternatives
3. an overwhelming feeling of great happiness or joyful excitement
4. to come or go up
5. moving suddenly and rapidly
6. to grasp, carry, or support someone
Diamonds – Rihanna – Complete

Shine bright like a diamond
Shine bright like a diamond
Find light in the beautiful sea
I choose to be happy
You and I, you and I
We’re like diamonds in the sky
You’re a shooting star I see
A vision of ecstasy
When you hold me, I’m alive
We’re like diamonds in the sky
At first sight I felt the energy of sun rays
I saw the life inside your eyes
So shine bright, tonight you and I
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
Eye to eye, so alive
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
Shine bright like a diamond
Shine bright like a diamond
Shine bright like a diamond
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
I knew that we’d become one right away
Oh, right away
At first sight I felt the energy of sun rays
I saw the life inside your eyes
Shine bright like a diamond
Shine bright like a diamond
Shine bright like a diamond
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
So shine bright, tonight you and I
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
Eye to eye, so alive
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
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We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
So shine bright, tonight you and I
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
Eye to eye, so alive
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
Shine bright like a diamond
Shine bright like a diamond
Shine bright like a diamond
We’re beautiful like diamonds in the sky
Palms rise to the universe
As we moonshine and molly
Feel the warmth we’ll never die
We’re like diamonds in the sky