

WHEN INSTRUMENTS ROAMED THE EARTH!®



COMPOSED BY BOB SINGLETON
NARRATION BY STEPHEN WHITE
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**LEARN BY LAUGHING
AND EXPERIENCING
THE SYMPHONY**



TEACHER'S GUIDE

discussion and activity Guide for before and after the concert experience

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WHEN INSTRUMENTS ROAMED THE EARTH!®



“When Instruments Roamed the Earth!®” is an all-original, multi-media story-and-music event, designed to have audiences fall in love with the sound, the people, and the experience of a symphony orchestra concert. Students will leave feeling a sense of “wow” and telling their friends how great it was.

educational values

Students will be thrilled as they experience exciting, age-appropriate sights, sounds, and sensations with the orchestra, making them laugh and want more. Using captivating examples and without lecturing, audiences see, hear, and experience the four sections of the orchestra with eye-and-ear-catching examples by soloists and sections.

The performance uses kinetic “choreography” throughout as soloists and sections stand and interact, showcasing dynamics, contrasts, personalities, and the enchanting sounds of the orchestra.



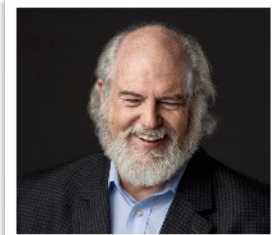
the creative team

“When Instruments Roamed the Earth!®” is created by the award-winning TV writing team of Bob Singleton, composer, and Stephen White, script & story.



Bob Singleton is a classically trained, Grammy®-nominated and multi-platinum album award-winning composer, producer, and arranger. His musical works for kids includes music for over 70 PBS episodes, more than 60 albums, an NBC network special, and a sold-out Radio City Music Hall run. Bob served as the music director for the world-wide children’s phenomenon, “Barney® & Friends” for 10 years, and has been awarded two multi-platinum albums, and nominated for a Grammy® and 4 Dove awards in the Children's Musical Album of the Year category.

Stephen White is an Emmy and Grammy®-nominated writer, with years of experience writing for television, home videos, stage shows, million-selling children’s books, and film. His credits include Principle Writer for “Barney & Friends®” (16 years), writer for in-store musical extravaganzas for Chuck E. Cheese®, lyricist for many award-winning songs and commercials, and children’s app developer/creator of “AlphaBELCH” and “Thumbpire,” which incorporate stories, images, and music for young children.



Max Larin is a busy artist and illustrator for books, magazines, and computer games around the world, while enjoying life in Kiev, Ukraine. He loves watercolor painting and creating imaginative worlds with computer tools.

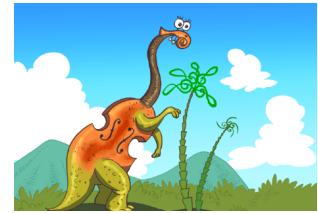
This guide was prepared with the help of Mary Ann Dudko PhD, educational consultant, and many classroom teachers who contributed time, energy, creativity, and experience. Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra photos by Katie Kelly. Illustrations by Max Larin.

Teacher's Guide

PRE AND POST
CONCERT ACTIVITIES
AND DISCUSSIONS



COLORING ACTIVITY
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PRE & POST CONCERT GUIDES



pre-concert excitement guide for teachers

You're going to attend a symphony concert event called, "When Instruments Roamed the Earth!®" Here's what it is about:

In prehistoric times, strange creatures walked the planet. These were the ancient ancestors of musical instruments that inspired makers in brass and wood to create the instruments we see in the orchestra today.

With laughs, projected cartoons, surprises, plus fun music and action by the orchestra's conductor and musicians, you'll be introduced to hilarious characters and the exciting sound and experience of the symphony orchestra!

To be honest, the concert is not really about dinosaurs or paleontology. The funny content is a great way to introduce students to the people, sounds, and experience of the symphony orchestra.





discussion

Q. Has anybody attended a symphony orchestra concert? Can you describe what you saw and heard?

HINT - Something to look for: The orchestra is led by a person who is called a "conductor." The conductor is in charge of a lot of things that the orchestra does. It is their responsibility to keep everybody together in the music.

Q. Has anybody seen a conductor lead an orchestra or group of musicians? How does a conductor lead a group of musicians?

HINT - Conductors give signals with a small stick (a "baton") that makes it easy for the musicians to see their signals. They wave and point the stick to start the musicians together, to tell them how fast to play, how loud or soft to play, and other important instructions.

ACTIVITY



Grades 1-3 color the picture of a musical dinosaur on page 9

Grades 4+ draw your own musical dinosaur using the page 9 picture as an example; or write a description of what a musical dinosaur might look like, and why.



at the concert

The musicians arrive on stage before the concert starts. They place the music on their music stands and review what they are about perform.

The musicians always make sure that their instruments are "tuned," which means that every instrument's notes will match all the other instrument's notes. They do this together just before they begin the concert by playing some long notes together, as they tighten or loosen their strings, or adjust parts of their instruments.

This isn't the concert yet! You don't have to clap!

When the conductor comes in, that's the time to clap. That is the real beginning of the concert. Your clapping tells the orchestra that you're glad to be there, and you're looking forward to the concert.

ACTIVITY



Hear what it
sounds like when
the orchestra
tunes up (1:15
length): [https://
youtu.be/
OJSi9C6_vlo](https://youtu.be/OJSi9C6_vlo)



things to do

Here are things to do that will make the concert more fun for you, the people around you, and the orchestra:

- Laugh all you want.
- Say “wow” if you want to.
- When someone from the stage asks you to do something or to make your own sounds, do it and have fun.
- At the end of any of the pieces of music, clap really loud, so the musicians know that you liked it.
- When the music plays, look and listen. You'll see the musicians stand when they play important parts of the music.
- Listen to how the instruments sound and watch how the musicians hold them.
- Think about how the instruments make their sounds - is it by blowing or drawing a bow across a string, or by hitting something?

*THE ORCHESTRA
IS GLAD YOU'RE
THERE*



The orchestra is glad that you are there. It's OK to let them know when you are enjoying the performance.



the orchestra

The orchestra is a group of people who grew up, went to school, and played with friends and their families, just like you.

At some time in their life, they chose to study their instruments. Some decided early in their lives and took private lessons, and some decided as late as college.

They love music, and they love to make music with friends. The players not only play in the orchestra, but they also perform with smaller groups of players, and sometimes by themselves.

Playing in an orchestra requires them to learn many types of music. Most symphony orchestras invite popular guest artists who perform many different kinds of music. The best players enjoy playing and understanding all styles of music.

The musicians in the orchestra are divided into 4 sections, based on what instruments they play. Each makes sounds in their own way, and each section has instruments that are small, medium, and large.

ORCHESTRAS ARE INTERNATIONAL



There are respected orchestras on almost every continent and in nearly every country in the world.

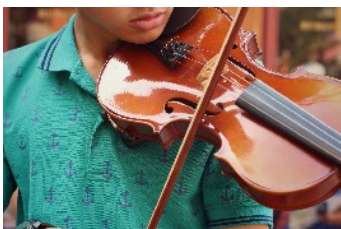
Symphony musicians come from all over the world, from small towns and countries, and large ones. The concert you're going to attend almost certainly has several musicians from far-away countries.



the sections of the orchestra

The four sections of the orchestra are grouped based on how the instruments they play make sounds. The four sections are:

STRINGS - This is the largest section of musicians. Their instruments are made of wood, and they make their sound by pulling a bow across strings stretched over the instrument.



FUN FACT - A bow is a stick with the long hair from a horse's tail. String players choose their bows as carefully as they choose their instruments.

STRINGS INSTRUMENTS



Typical string instruments in the orchestra are the violin, viola, cello, and double bass.

WOODWINDS -

These musicians make sound by blowing air into their instruments. Their instruments are made from wood and metal, and they use all of their fingers on both hands to play notes.



FUN FACT - Each woodwind has a different way to blow the air into it. Flutes and piccolos get air blown across them like a bottle top, clarinets use a thin piece of wood called a reed, that vibrates, and oboes and bassoons have reeds that are carefully carved hollow pieces of wood, like a flattened drink straw.



PERCUSSION - this section of musicians hit, shake, and scrape all sorts of things to make sounds. It's hard because they have to do it at just the right time, every time.

FUN FACT -

Percussionists have to be able to play many kinds of drums, cymbals, tambourines, and even bicycle bells and wind chimes. They use many kinds of sticks and even common tools like sandpaper and hammers.



WOODWINDS



Woodwind instruments are the flute, piccolo, oboe, bassoon and clarinet.

PERCUSSION



Percussion instruments include the snare & bass drums, tympani, marimba, xylophone, cymbals, and anything else that can be hit, shaken, or scratched.



BRASS - these musicians play shiny metal instruments, and they can be loud! They all make musical sounds by buzzing with their lips into a small piece of metal. Most brass instruments change notes by pressing any of 3 or 4 “valves,” except trombones. Trombones make different notes by sliding a piece of metal back and forth.

FUN FACT - The

tuba is the biggest brass instrument, but even this big instrument comes in different sizes.

Tuba players might own 3 different tubas, and they get to choose which one they play for any piece of music.



BRASS



Brass instruments you’ll see in the orchestra are trumpets, French horns, trombones, and tuba.

Brass instruments can change their sound by placing something where the sound comes out of their instrument. They call those things, “mutes.”

TIMPANISAUR



WHEN INSTRUMENTS
ROAMED THE EARTH!®



post-concert review guide for teachers

You've attended a symphony concert event called, "When Instruments Roamed the Earth!®"

As you saw, the concert doesn't present facts about dinosaurs or paleontology, only funny made-up information. The funny content is a great way to introduce students to the people, sounds, and experience of the symphony orchestra.

The following questions are discussion starters. The main takeaway from the concert is the experience your students shared. Each one will have favorite moments, instruments, and individuals. Explore what they felt, when they felt it, why they felt it, and who the people were that triggered those favorite things.





discussion starters

Q. Think back to the concert. What did you learn about dinosaurs? What did you learn about the orchestra?

Q. What made you laugh out loud?

Q. How did the conductor lead the orchestra?

HINT - Conductors give signals with a small stick (a “baton”). They wave and point the stick to start the musicians together, to tell them how fast to play, how loud or soft to play, and other important instructions.

Q. Did anyone see the musicians looking at their music, and turning the pages? What do you think their pages of music tell them?

HINT - Music is a set of printed instructions that tells the musicians what to play, when to play it, and how to play it (loud/soft, short/long, fast/slow, and more). *Print and hand out or display the attached trumpet sheet music.*

Q. What did you notice about how the different instruments sound?

Q. What did you notice about different ways that the musicians hold their instruments?

Q. What person in an orchestra would you like to be?

Q. What instrument would you like to play?

WRAP UP ACTIVITIES

Write a letter to the conductor and musicians and tell them what you thought of the concert.

As a class, make a poster about the concert. Share it on social media with the symphony.

ACTIVITY



Conduct a YouTube performance of the “William Tell Overture Finale.” A good one to use is the one performed by the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, <https://youtu.be/YIbYCOiETx0>. It’s a little over 2 minutes long.

Blunder Lizards

Cue 07

composed by Bob Singleton
story and narration by Stephen White

Ponderous $\text{♩}=78$

3 **stand** **solo - fanfare**

mf

8 **3** **end solo**

14 **fanfare** **15** **3**

mf

19 **3** **23** *mf*

25 **3** **3**

30 **sit** **32** **4** *mf* **3**

39 **3** **41** *f*

44 **3** *ff*