

Peter and the Wolf Activity 2
Swan Lake Musical Story Time

Teaching Objective

Students will engage in focused listening and respond creatively to what they hear.

Resources

DSO recording of *Swan Lake*, found on track 1 on the accompanying Youth Concert CD

Pre-Assessment

Ask students if they have ever listened to music. If so, has it ever made them think of a picture, a story, or a feeling? Tell them that music can help our imaginations create stories.

Teaching Sequence

1. Tell students that they will listen to a piece of music and create a story together that the music suggests. There are no right or wrong answers! Each student will add a sentence and the teacher will write it down.
2. Prepare your students for some quiet listening time. Tell them that while they are listening, they should imagine a story about a beautiful swan who is in trouble, allowing the music to guide their thoughts. (You can create a different topic, if desired.)
3. Begin the story with “Once upon a time there was a beautiful swan who was in trouble.” Write the sentence on the board or on a poster board.
4. Choose a student to write the next sentence, writing it on the board or posterboard. Write his or her name next to the sentence.
5. Continue having students add to the story, writing everything down. After 4-5 additions, listen again to refresh the students’ memories of the music and how the swan is doing.
6. When all students have contributed to the story, read it from the beginning while playing the music softly.

Culminating Activity

Allow students to “act out” their story while playing the music. Make available costumes (capas or towels, hats, rings for crowns, plastic swords, etc.)

Evaluation

Did the students engage in focused listening and respond creatively to what they heard?

TEKS Connections

English Language Arts: 110.11b(13-14, 16-18, 21-23); 110.12b(18A, 27-29); 110.13b(18A, 28-30)

Music: 117.3b(3B); 117.6b(1C, 5B); 117.9b (1A, 5C)

Theater: 117.4b(1-3); 117.7b(1-3); 117.10b(1-3)

