

SLSO At Home Learning

Peter and the Wolf – Character Composition

Let's create a new character for *Peter and the Wolf*. Use the Character Worksheet to help guide you through the process.

- What is your character's name? (Write answer in box 1.)
- Draw your character's portrait. What do they look like? (Write answer in box 2.)
- Describe your character's personality. (Write answer in box 3.)
- What instrument will play their theme? (Write answer in box 4.)
- How might your character move? (Write answer in box 5.)
- What will your character do in the story? (write answer in box 6.)

Now let's write a musical theme for your character. (Write answers in box 7):

- Select a tempo for your character's theme: fast or slow or use tempo markings such as *Allegro* and *Andante*.
- Select one of the following patterns and write the pattern in the small square boxes.
 - aaab
 - abab
 - abba
 - abac
- Each rectangular box below represents one 2-beat building block. Depending on the pattern you chose, pick two or three blocks. One block will represent all the a's in the pattern, one block will represent all the b's in the pattern, and if you have a c in your pattern, choose a third block to represent the c. Arrange your blocks in order, following the pattern, to create an 8-beat phrase.

The green building blocks are connector rhythms, meaning they have a feeling of continuing or leading on to something else. The blue building blocks are cadence rhythms, meaning they feel more final, like an ending. See below for an example using the pattern aaab.



Example:

The example shows four boxes representing musical building blocks. The first three boxes are labeled 'a' and each contains the rhythm 'Got to catch him' (two eighth notes followed by two eighth notes). The fourth box is labeled 'b' and contains the rhythm 'Wolf' (a quarter note followed by a quarter rest). A double bar line is at the end of the sequence.

- Experiment with different patterns and building blocks until you find one you like. You could even create your own words for each building block, but the words must follow the rhythm.
- Once you find a rhythm you like, add some body percussion such as stomp, pat, clap, or snap. Or, find objects around your house to play the rhythm on.

The image is divided into four quadrants, each illustrating a different rhythm and word combination with a corresponding illustration:

- Top-left (light green background):** A quarter note followed by two eighth notes. The words are "Green" and "mea-dow". Below is an illustration of green grass.
- Top-right (light blue background):** Two eighth notes followed by a quarter note. The words are "Lit-tle" and "bird". Below is an illustration of a blue bird on a branch.
- Bottom-left (light green background):** Two eighth notes followed by two eighth notes. The words are "Got to" and "catch him". Below is an illustration of a lasso.
- Bottom-right (light blue background):** A quarter note followed by a quarter rest. The word is "Wolf". Below is an illustration of a wolf's head.





My Character

1. My character's name:

2. Portrait:

3. Character traits:

4. Instrument:

5. Movement:

6. My character's role in the story:

7. My character's theme:

Tempo: _____

