SLSO At Home Learning

*Peter and the Wolf*

Read the story of *Peter and the Wolf* and act it out together.

While reading pause to discuss the following questions for social emotional learning:

- When the wolf eats the duck, how do you think Peter and his friends felt?
- How do you think Peter felt when he was trying to catch the wolf?
- How do you think the wolf felt when the bird was teasing him?
- How do you think the wolf felt when Peter caught him in his lasso? (What is a lasso?)
- Why was Peter’s Grandfather upset with Peter? Should Peter have disobeyed his Grandfather?

Make a list of characters (Peter, Grandfather, Duck, Bird, Cat, Wolf, Forest Rangers). Using clues from the story, develop a list of character traits for each character. You can use the [Character Map](https://www.charactermap.com) to write down your answers.

Composer Sergei Prokofiev wrote music to accompany the story of *Peter and the Wolf*. In his piece, each character is represented by a different instrument of the orchestra and has their own musical theme or melody. For each character, make predictions about what the character’s musical theme might sound like. If you get stuck, try picking from the following choices:

- Tempo: Largo (slow)/Moderato (moderate)/Allegro (fast)
- Dynamics: Loud/Soft
- Pitch: high sounds (like a flute) /low sound (like a tuba)
- Adjectives: playful/scary/serious
- Instrument: French horn/Oboe/Clarinet/Flute/Timpani/Violin/Bassoon

After making musical predictions, play each character’s theme, stopping in between to discuss your musical observations as compared to your predictions. The following timings are taken from Track 1 of RCA Victor’s recording of *Peter and the Wolf* with Eugene Ormandy, conductor, and David Bowie, narrator. [spoti.fi/2Ke2S9R](https://spoti.fi/2Ke2S9R)

- Bird (0:17 – 0:30) – Played by the Flute (woodwind family)
- Duck (0:33 – 0:50) – Played by the Oboe (woodwind family)
- Cat (0:53 – 1:12) – Played by the Clarinet (woodwind family)
- Grandfather (1:17 – 1:40) – Played by the Bassoon (woodwind family)
- Wolf (1:44 – 2:02) – Played by three French Horns (brass family)
- Peter (2:06 – 2:26) – Played by the Violins, Violas, Cellos and Basses (string family)
- Hunters (2:32 – 2:39) – Played by the timpani (percussion family)

Listen again to each musical theme and demonstrate how you think each character would move, based on your musical observations. Now that you’ve met each character, listen to the entire piece. Each time you recognize a character’s theme, move around the room as if you were that character.

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