

Programme Music based on the Environment

Competency 1.0 - Appreciates, values and reproduces creatively the sounds in the Environment

Competency Level 1.1 - Listens, identifies and describes Programme Music

Activity 1.1.1 - Programme Music based on the Environment

What is programme music ?

programme music describes a scene or tells a story. it is the opposite of absolute music which is not trying to describe anything, just the sound of the piece. also called illustrative music. very popular in the romantic period. The most popular program music compositions are Sergei Prokofiev's peter and the wolf, Tchaikovsky's 1812 overture and Saint-Saens' carnival of the animals.

How was music used to represent the different characters of the story Peter and the Wolf?

Bird

Flute



Duck

Oboe



Cat

Clarinet



Grandfather

[Bassoon](#)



Wolf

[French horns](#)



Hunters

woodwind and trumpet theme, with gunshots on [timpani](#) and [bass drum](#)

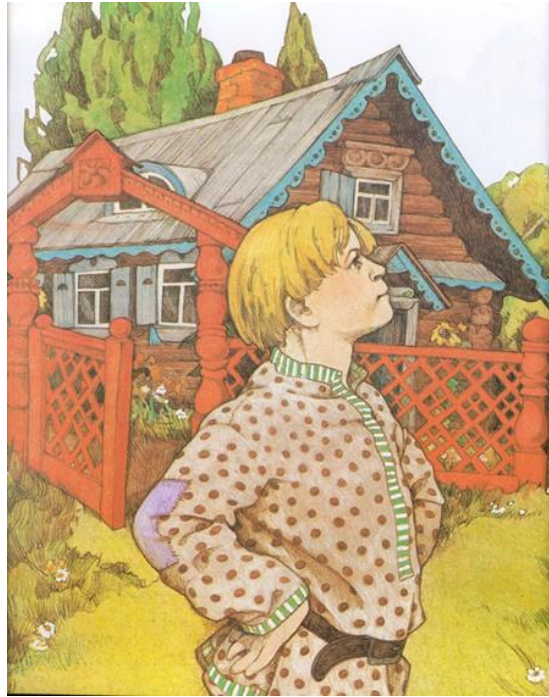


Peter

[string instruments](#) (including [violin](#), [viola](#), [cello](#), and [double bass](#))



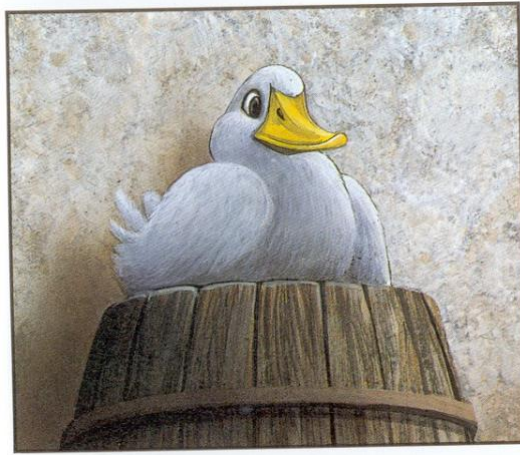
The Story of Peter and the Wolf



Once upon a time there was a boy named Peter. He lived with his grandfather in a little wooden house surrounded by a high wall. Outside the wall lay a meadow with a pond and a tall tree. Beyond the meadow was a deep, dark forest. Early one morning, Peter opened the gate and went out into the big green meadow.



A small bird, Peter's friend, perched on a large tree in the meadow. "Everything is quiet, everything is quiet!" The bird was mocked



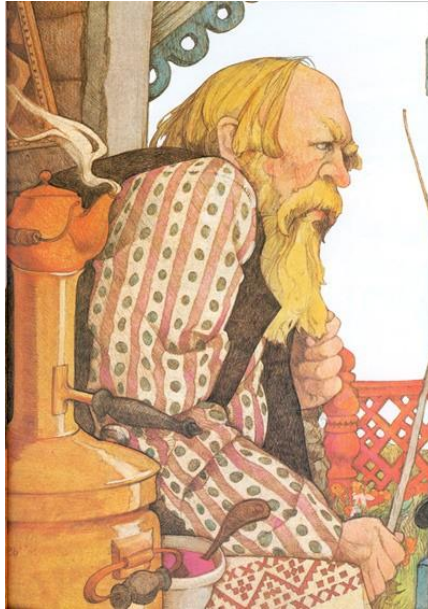
A duck came waddling around. She was glad that Peter had not closed the gate and decided to take a nice swim in the deep pond in the meadow. The little bird saw the duck and flew down upon the grass, settled next to her and shrugged his shoulders. "What kind of bird are you if you can't fly?" said he. To this the duck replied "What kind of bird are you if you can't swim?" and dived into the pond.



The bird and the duck argued and argued, the duck swimming in the pond and the little bird hopping along the bank. Suddenly something caught Peter's attention. He looked around and noticed a sly cat, creeping slowly through the high grass.

The cat thought, "While that little bird is busy arguing with the duck, I'll just grab him!" Stealthily, on her velvet paws, she crept towards him.

"Look out!" shouted Peter. And the bird immediately flew high into the tree, while the duck flapped and quacked at the cat from the middle of the pond. The cat paced around the tree and thought, "Is it worth climbing up so high? By the time I get there the bird will have flown away."



Just then Grandfather came out of the house. He was angry that Peter had gone out into the meadow. “The meadow is a dangerous place. Suppose a wolf were to come out of the great, dark forest. What would you do then, eh?”

But Peter paid no attention to his grandfather’s words. Boys like him are not afraid of wolves! But Grandfather took Peter by the hand, led him home, and locked the garden gate.

Soon afterwards a ferocious wolf does indeed come out of the forest. The cat quickly climbs into the tree with the bird, but the duck, who has jumped out of the pond, is chased, overtaken, and swallowed by the wolf

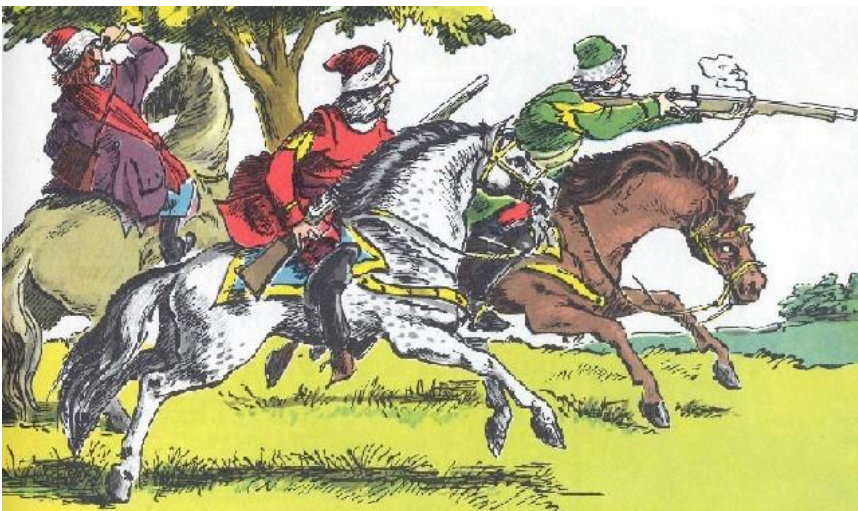


Now this is how things stood: the cat was sitting on one branch of the tree and the little bird on another (not too close to the cat), while the wolf walked round and round the tree, looking up at them with greedy eyes.

In the meantime, Peter, without the slightest fear, stood behind the closed gate, watching all that was going on. He ran quickly into the house, fetched a strong rope and climbed the high stone wall. One of the branches of the tree, around which the wolf was walking, stretched out over the wall. Grabbing hold of the branch, Peter lightly climbed over onto the tree.

“Fly down and circle round the wolf’s head,” he said to the little bird. “Only watch out that he doesn’t catch you!” The little bird flew as close as he could, almost touching the wolf’s head with his wings, while the wolf snapped angrily at him, from this side and that. How that bird teased the wolf; how that wolf wanted to catch him! But the little bird was too clever and the wolf simply couldn’t do anything about it.

Meanwhile, Peter made a lasso and carefully letting it down...down...down, caught the wolf by the tail and pulled with all his might. Feeling himself caught by the rope, the wolf began to jump wildly trying to escape. But Peter tied the other end of the rope to the tree. And the wolf’s jumping only made the rope round his tail tighter. Just then, the hunters came out of the woods, following the wolf’s trail and shooting their guns as they went.



But Peter, sitting in the tree, said, “Don’t shoot! We have caught the wolf. The little bird and I. Please help us take him to the zoo!”

Imagine the splendid procession, led by Peter. After him came the hunters, leading the wolf. Then Grandfather Followed by the cat. But, Grandfather shook his head discontentedly, “It’s all very well...but what if Peter hadn’t caught the wolf? What would have happened then, huh?”

The little bird flew above them, chirping his triumphant song, “what brave fellows we are, Peter and I! Look what we have caught!”

And, if you listen very carefully you might just hear the fat duck quacking inside the wolf because the wolf, in his hurry, had swallowed her...whole!

The End

M.B.A.P.MEEMADUMA - R/GAMINI C.C.