

Peter VERSUS the Wolf

We are so pleased you will be viewing Helena Symphony's Youth Concert.
We're happy to have you as our guests.

This exciting tale will be told by professional actors and by musicians from the Helena Symphony Orchestra playing music written by the very famous Russian composer, Prokofiev.



Helena Symphony Orchestra



Allan R. Scott, *Music Director*



Michael Mleko, *Assistant Conductor*

Is the story of **Peter VERSUS the Wolf** the same as
the story of **Peter and the Wolf**?

That depends....if you ask...



Both stories have the **same characters** and the **same instruments** who play the parts of the characters, so let's meet them.

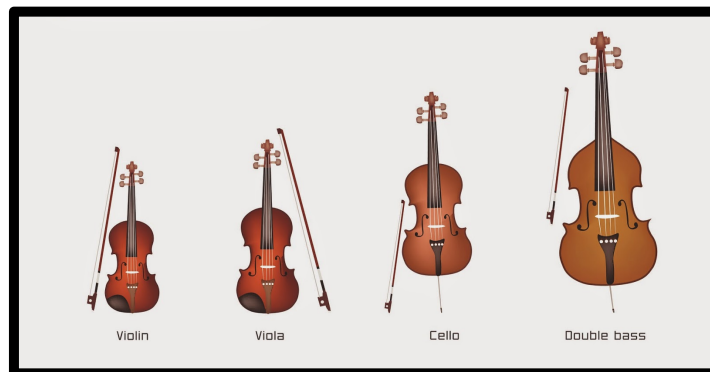
As you proceed through the study guide, please access the musical excerpts at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eli_q4bNZMM&list=PLuDmepj8uyhdOY-ehbhPL1UABHyVXfo-s

(scroll down column at the right side of the screen)

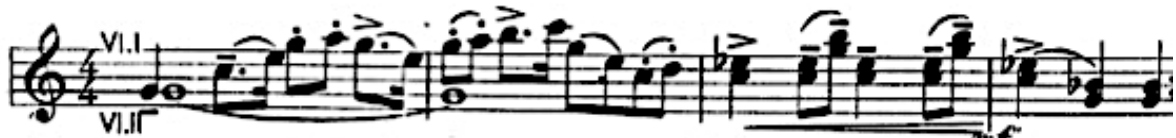


1) Meet **PETER**, a **brave** little boy....or a **foolish** little boy. You will have to make that decision when you get to know him better.

Peter's theme....or special melody....is played by the **STRING** instruments, like **VIOLINS, VIOLAS, CELLOS, and DOUBLE BASSES.**



Listen to the Peter's melody. **Touch** each note as you hear it played. You may have to hurry!!! **Describe Peter as the music helps you imagine him.** (Excerpt #1)





2) Meet **THE BIRD**....whose most important job is to keep away from the **HUNGRY CAT!!**

The bird's theme.....or special melody.....is played by the **FLUTE**. (Excerpt #4)

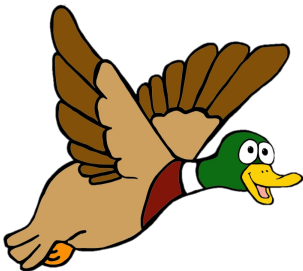


Listen to the Bird's melody.



How can you tell by listening to the music that the **bird has to move quickly**?

3) Meet **THE DUCK**....who tried to keep away from the **HUNGRY WOLF!**



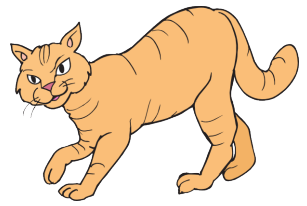
The duck's theme.....or special melody.....is played by the **OBOE**. (Excerpt #6)

Does the sound of the duck's theme give you a clue about how the duck **walks**?



Can you hear and see a place in the melody where the duck tries his best to **leap up and fly**?

4) Now let's meet **THE CAT**....who loves to sneak up on the bird....and **POUNCE!**



The cat's theme.....or special melody....is played by the **CLARINET**. (Excerpt #5)

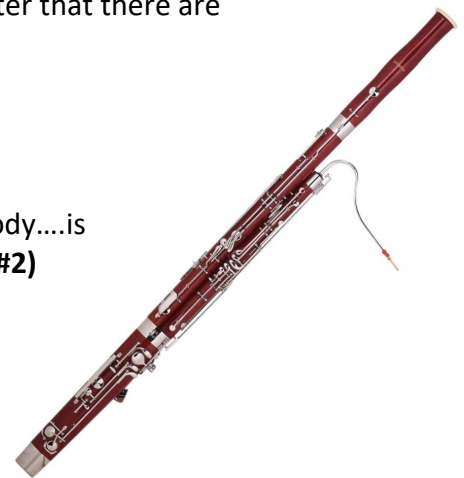


Can you hear and see places in this melody where the cat **tiptoes** and where he **pounces**?

5) Now let's meet Peter's **GRANDFATHER**....who warns Peter that there are **DANGEROUS WOLVES** in the forest.



Grandfather's theme.....or special melody....is played by the **BASSOON**. (Excerpt #2)



Listen for a place in this melody where Grandfather might be **shaking his fist**, warning Peter to be careful?

6) Now let's meet the villain of the story.....the **WOLF**...who sneaks up on the duck and swallows him!!!!



The wolf's theme.....or special melody.....is played by the **FRENCH HORNS**.(Excerpt #3)



Is the wolf **growling**? Do you think there is more than one French horn playing the wolf's melody? Why?

7) Now let's meet the very last characters in the story.....the **HUNTERS**...
.....who come track the wolf.

The sounds of the hunters' guns are played by the **TIMPANI** and **BASS DRUM**.
(Excerpt #7)



Can you hear the sound of the hunters **get louder** as they come closer?

Now that you've met the characters, here is **Peter's** version of the story.



Once upon a time...

Peter lived at his grandfather's home in a forest clearing. One day, Peter went out into the clearing, leaving the **garden gate open**, and the duck that lived in the yard took the opportunity to go swimming in a pond nearby.



The **duck** and the **bird** argued on whether a proper bird should be able to swim or fly.



Peter's pet **cat** stalked them quietly, and the bird—warned by Peter—flew to safety in a tall tree while the duck swam to safety in the middle of the pond.



Before long, Peter's **grandfather** scolded him for being outside and playing in the meadow alone because a **wolf** might come out of the forest and attack him. When Peter showed defiance, believing he had nothing to fear from wolves, his grandfather took him back into the house and **locked the gate**.



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



Seeing all of this from inside, **Peter fetched a rope** and climbed over the garden wall into the tree.



He asked the bird to fly around the wolf's head to distract him, while he lowered a noose and caught the **wolf by his tail**. The wolf struggled to get free, but Peter tied the rope to the tree and the noose only got tighter.



Some **hunters**, who have been tracking the wolf, came out of the forest with their guns readied, but Peter got them to instead help him take the **wolf to a zoo** in a victory **parade** which included himself, the bird, the hunters leading the wolf, the cat, and lastly his grumbling Grandfather still disappointed that Peter ignored his warnings.

At the end, the narrator states those listening carefully could hear the **duck still quacking** inside the wolf's belly, due to being swallowed alive.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_and_the_Wolf



But, the **WOLF** does not agree with the way Peter tells the story. When you watch **Peter VERSUS the Wolf**, you will hear the wolf tell you all about **HIS VERSION** of the story.

Once upon a time...



So, the wolf sets out to prove his innocence in a court of law. When you view this concert, you will listen to the testimony of the wolf, of Peter, and of the musicians. At the end of the trial, **YOU** will be asked to decide if the wolf is....

GUILTY

OR

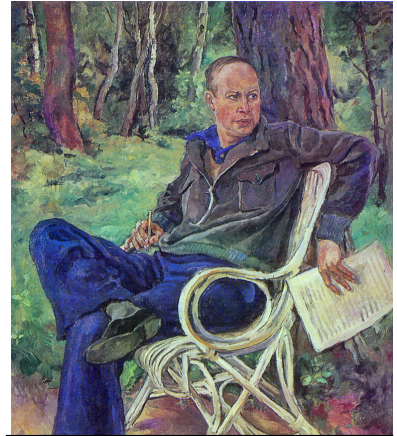
NOT GUILTY

...of eating that duck!!!!

The composer's story...

Sergei Prokofiev was one of those children who, from a very young age, never wanted to be anything but a composer. He was born in Russia in 1891, and by the time he was 5 years old, he had already written some piano pieces (which he called “puppies”), though he hadn’t had a single piano lesson. Some people called him a child prodigy!

By the time he was 12 years old, he had composed a symphony, three operas, and many more piano pieces.



Sergei Prokofiev
1891-1953

Later in life he did study music formally at St. Petersburg Conservatory, where he concentrated on composition and piano.

Outside of the music world, his favorite pastime was playing chess. He kept a journal of all his music revues and his chess moves!

His style of writing music reflected the industrial world in which he lived: a world of people working long hours in factories, neon signs, and improvements in transportation.

His most famous work was *Peter and the Wolf*, which he considered “a present of the children of Moscow, but also to my own.” He died of a stroke at the age of 60.

MUSICIANS

Helena Symphony Orchestra

Stephen Cepeda, Richard Ferguson, Rebekah Desta, Brian Rogge, Ali Schultz Levesque, Ellie Parker, Kathryn Collier, Yu-Ting Huang, Marianne Ferguson, *violins*
Sara Schultz Levesque, Mariya Ksondzyk, Katie Benton, Madeleine Price, *violas*
Linda Kuhn, Zachary Boles, Carson Yahvah, Fischer Friend, *cellos*
Trebor Riddle, Tom Larson, Ryan Bell, *basses*



Tiana Gris , *flute*
Nicole Evans, *oboe*
Jill Brischli, *clarinet*
Dana Nehring, *bassoon*
Erin Vang, Madeleine Folkerts, Daniel Lande, *horns*
Thomas Lee, *trumpet*
Don Stone, *trombone*
Jeff Vick, Dennis Dell, *percussion*



If you'd like to get to know the **MUSICIANS** from the Helena Symphony Orchestra and learn more about their **INSTRUMENTS**, here are a link just for you

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7njq-drFKYT7Wwbb4UvZT82nFAlggYEy>

If you'd like to hear more of the **MUSIC** from Peter's story of *Peter and the Wolf*, here's a link you might enjoy.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fmi5zHg4QSM&list=RDFmi5zHg4QSM&start_radio=1&t=0

If you'd like to see a **VIDEO** of Peter's story with a combination of cartoon characters, real kids, and real pets along with real musicians, here's a link you might like:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6fBjh42PQdk>



Thank you for being our guests
for *Peter VERSUS the Wolf*



We appreciate our generous sponsors for this event:



SYMPHONY KIDS

We invite you to join us for other livestreamed educational events presented by the Helena Symphony Orchestra and Chorale. Created for children ages 5 to 10, Symphony Kids is a free 35-minute concert series for **audiences of all ages and their families**. Symphony Kids brings the power of live instrumental and chorale music into the hearts of children with specific concerts designed to introduce them to the world of music and instruments. The livestream can be **accessed at no charge over the internet** at <https://www.youtube.com/helenasympphony/live>.



Our next event: **“Oh, the Roads We Travel”**

Saturday, April 10th, at 10:00 am



Ann and Ron
Waterman

