

# Carnival of the Animals - Grades 1-4



This activity utilizes the famous classical music suite Carnival of the Animals by the composer Camille Saint-Saens. It has 14 short musical movements, each representing a different animal: lion, hens/roosters, donkey, tortoise, elephant, kangaroo, fish, swan, etc.

## How it Works

To prepare, take a look at the order of the animals represented and tell your student which animal they will be acting out/moving like. When the music plays the student will begin moving (walking, 'flying', jumping, etc.) like the animal in the music. Encourage them to really listen to the music and try to bring out the characteristics of each animal.

I've found that this version works well: <https://youtu.be/1L993HNAAa8M> (copy/paste link).

It has each movement separated and time-stamped so you can choose which animal you want and/or pause between the sections to explain what's coming next. To encourage participation, jump in and move with your student.

## What You'll Need

Access to YouTube

Smartphone, tablet or computer

An open space for the student to move in