

Move to Classical Music - Grades 3 & Up

You can introduce your students to classical music with songs composed with specific themes in mind.

How It Works

For instance, “Carnival of the Animals” by Camille Saint-Saëns consists of 14 sections, each representing a different animal. Play the sections for the children, explaining which animal is being represented. Instruct them to move to the sound of the music like they think that animal would. Gioachino Rossini composed “Tarantella.” An Italian dance by that same name was inspired by the idea that when a person is bit by a tarantula, they move about wildly. Play Rossini’s “Tarantella” and tell students to move about as if they had been bitten by a tarantula. Gustav Holst composed music in which each movement is named after a planet. Supply students with watercolors, paper and paintbrushes, and have them paint pictures of the solar system while they are listening to Holst’s “The Planets.”

What You’ll Need

Access to recordings of the above pieces. They can all be found on YouTube, Apple Music, Spotify, etc.

Art supplies for The Planets

A space for students to move in

