

Music That Tells a Spooky Story

Write Your Own Spooky Story

Objective:

Students will listen to a musical excerpt and write a story to the music by identifying musical elements.

Materials & Setup:

- Write Your Own worksheet

Activity:

1. Introduce or review the elements of music.
 - Rhythm – patterns of notes; long and short
 - Melody – patterns of pitches; high and low
 - Tempo – speed; fast or slow
 - Dynamics – volume; loud and soft
 - Orchestration – which instrument(s) or instrument families play
2. There are three excerpts of A Night On Bald Mountain by Modest Mussorgsky for the beginning, middle, and end of a story. Listen to each musical excerpt as a class. Ask students to list as many descriptive words as they can about the music. Try to include the elements of music (such as fast tempo, soft volume, etc.) for each section. What changes in the music?
3. Listen again to each excerpt, stopping after each one. Allow students to write each part of their story to the music by completing the worksheet.
4. Ask students to present their stories to the class and share what musical elements inspired the elements of their story.

THE
CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA

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Story Part	Musical Elements (tempo, dynamics, mood)	My Story
<u>Beginning</u> Music 1		
<u>Middle</u> Music 2		
<u>End</u> Music 3		