



Reference 1109

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Grades 4 - 6

# Junior Music

for

# Winter



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# Junior Music For the Winter

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### *Pictures At An Exhibition* by Modeste Mussorgsky

#### I. **The Promenade**

This depicts Mussorgsky strolling among the pictures, and recurs many times throughout the composition.

It begins with a trumpet fanfare, then is joined by the entire brass section and finally the full orchestra.

The music is majestic and stately, moving at a leisurely pace.

Display a copy of this recurring theme. (*See Appendix*).

The students may follow the notation as it is played.

Students may move around the classroom as the music is played, miming the actions of people at an art exhibition.

#### II. **Gnomus**

This is a picture of a wooden nutcracker in the form of a gnome with huge jaws and crooked legs.

The introduction of rapid, descending notes is played on the low strings (cellos and double basses), giving a dark and mysterious feeling. A xylophone portrays the gnome twitching and jumping, and the low brass and timpani add a menacing, threatening sound.

#### ***Music Activity***

The class can develop interpretive movement for this selection.

Divide the class into three groups and assign each one of the following instruments:

- a) strings
- b) xylophone
- c) low brass and timpani

When the music is replayed each group must listen carefully, noting when their assigned instrument plays.

Each group must then decide the movement(s) they will perform when the music is heard. Time for practice should be allowed.

Later, when the music is played again, each group performs.

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### Creative Writing Activity 1



You are a cowboy living on a ranch in the west.

Write a page in your diary to tell how you spent the day.

Cowboys woke early and worked until sunset.

Cowboys worked very hard and you must explain in detail the chores you would be expected to do.

You may do some research for this activity.

### Creative Writing Activity 2



Cowboys selected their horses with care.

A cowboy's horse had to be strong, intelligent and dependable.

Pretend you are a cowboy who values his horse highly, and write a song or poem about your horse.

Tell its name, what it looks like, the work it does and how you feel about your horse.

**The March of the Siamese Children  
by Richard Rogers**



***Music Activities***

1. Listen to the music.  
After listening, brainstorm and list on chart paper all the percussion instruments that were heard.  
Examples: gong, drum, cymbals, wood block or temple block, triangle, finger cymbals, etc.
2. The composition consists of three distinct themes, which are repeated: A B A C A B A  
Divide the students into groups of six or eight.  
Each group must create a movement or series of movements for each theme. These movements should be contrasting to underline the differences in the music. Some rehearsal time will be needed.  
As the composition is played, each group performs its stylized movements.

***Language Activities***

1. Siam is the ancient name for Thailand.  
The students can prepare a brief report on this country by using the research sheet. (*See Appendix*).
2. When Activity 1 has been completed, the students can choose one or more of the names listed and create an acrostic poem based on their research.  
Example: Siam, Thailand, Bangkok

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Cut out the labels and place them correctly on the diagram of the saxophone.



bell	mouthpiece	reed
keys	octave key	ring for sling