

Peter and the Wolf

MUSICAL CONCEPT Musical instruments

MEDIA Recording of *Peter and the Wolf* by Sergei Prokofiev

GRADE
LEVEL
3–5

Lesson Plan

1 Introduction:

Peter and the Wolf is a musical composition written by the Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev in 1936. Prokofiev wrote this symphony for children to introduce them to some of the instruments of the orchestra. A narrator, the person who speaks the story during the composition, tells about a very brave but stubborn young boy who captures a wolf. Throughout the story, each character is represented by a specific musical instrument.

- Peter—a string quartet
- Grandfather—a bassoon
- Duck—an oboe
- Bird—a flute
- Cat—a clarinet
- Wolf—French horns
- Hunters—kettle drums

2 Play the recording, and instruct the students to listen closely to the different instruments.

3 Construct the puppets. Each student should make a Peter puppet plus a second character.

4 Using the puppets, instruct the students to play a game by using correct and incorrect combinations of the characters. For example, say to the class, “The bird is represented by the flute.” If the answer is correct, all the birds should sit down. If incorrect, they should remain standing. Continue the game until everyone is sitting down.

5 Play the recording once more, instructing students to wave their puppet in the air when their character’s instrument is heard.

Extension Activity

Have students trade puppets with a classmate that has a different character. Play the recording again, instructing students to wave their new puppet when the character’s instrument is heard.

Peter and the Wolf Puppets

Materials

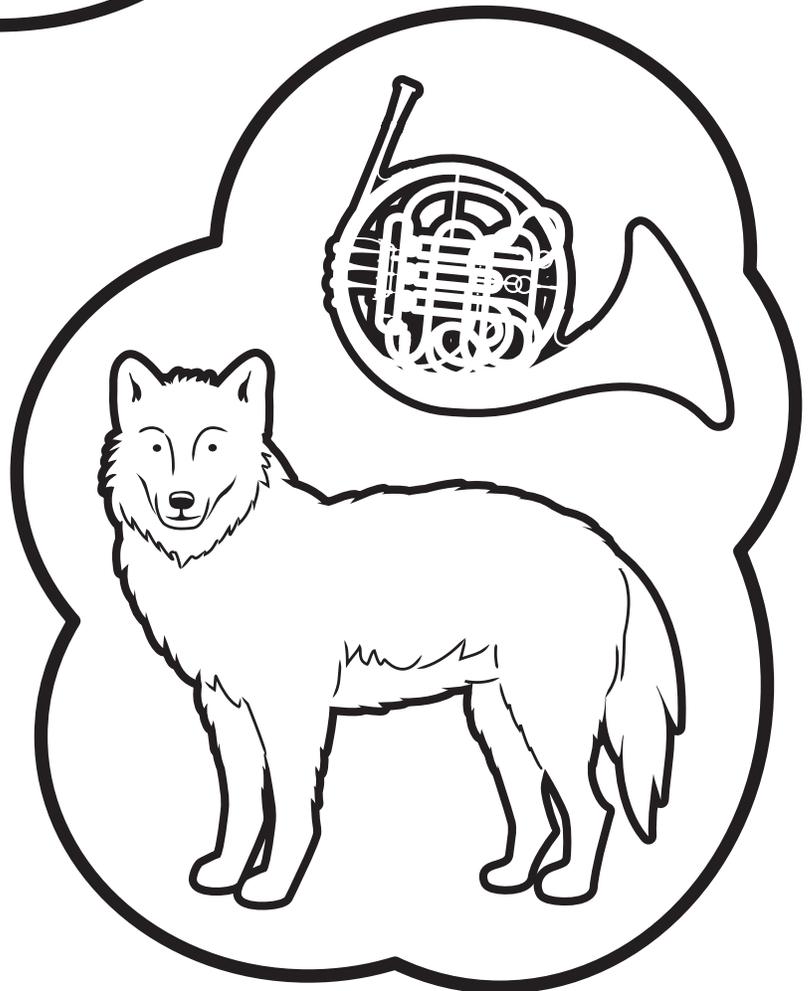
- Character templates
(each student will need one Peter puppet, plus one additional character)
- Crayons or markers
- Scissors
- Glue
- Craft sticks (two per student)

Directions

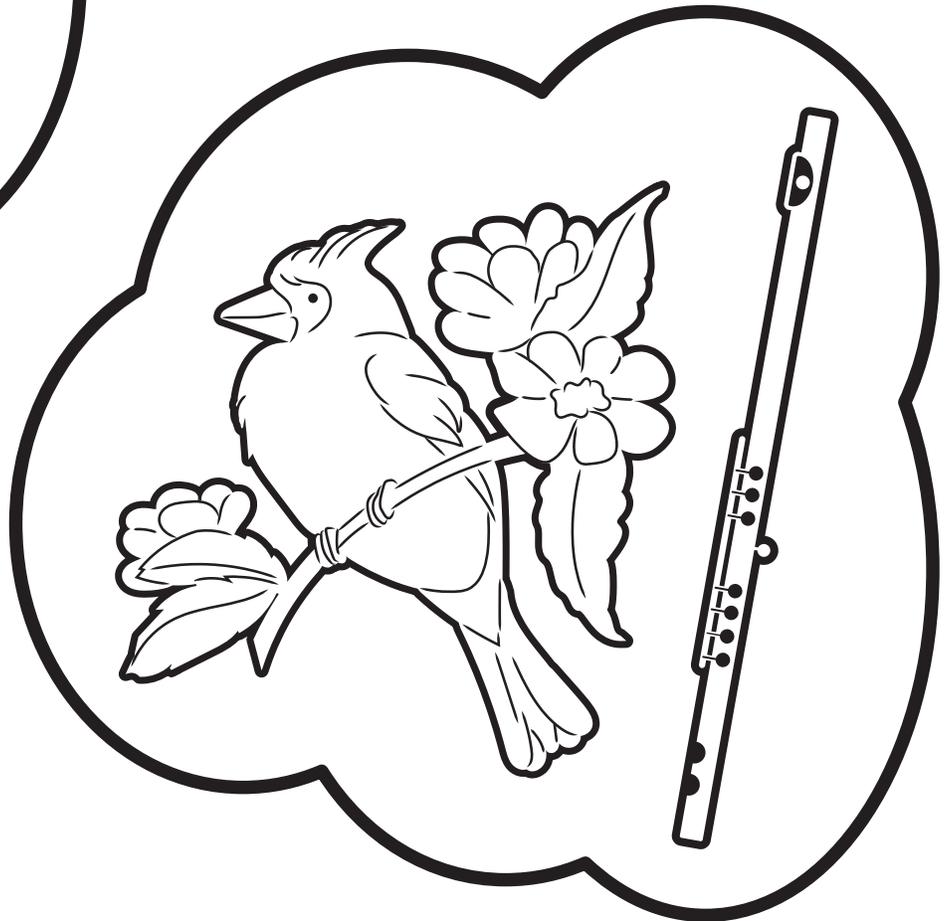
- 1 Color the characters.
- 2 Cut the characters out.
- 3 Glue each character to the end of a craft stick.



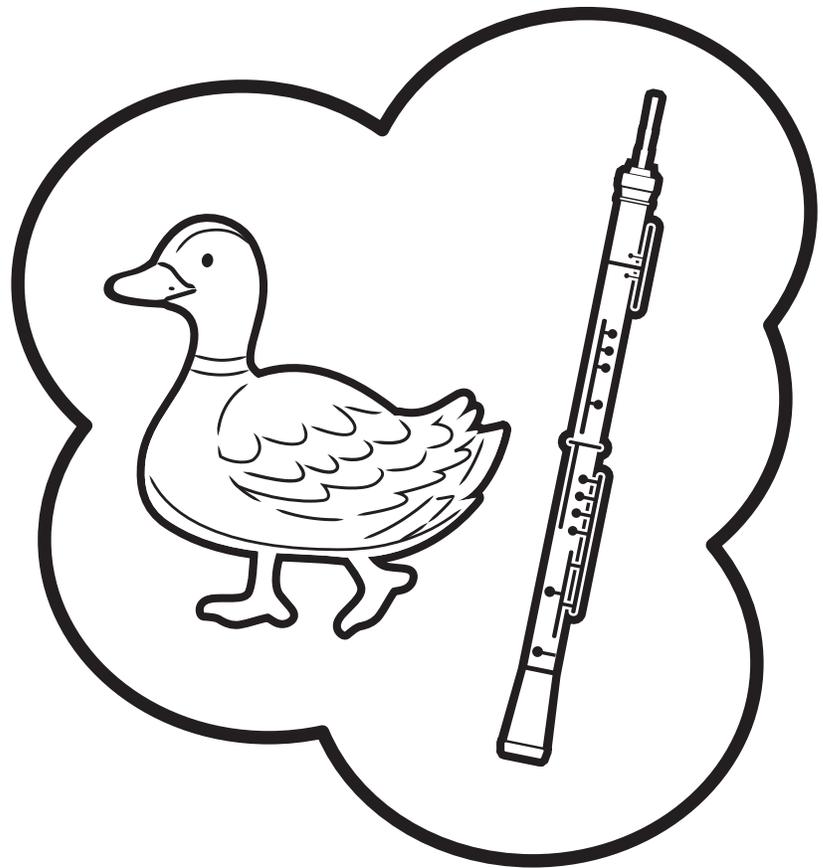
Peter and the Wolf Puppets Template



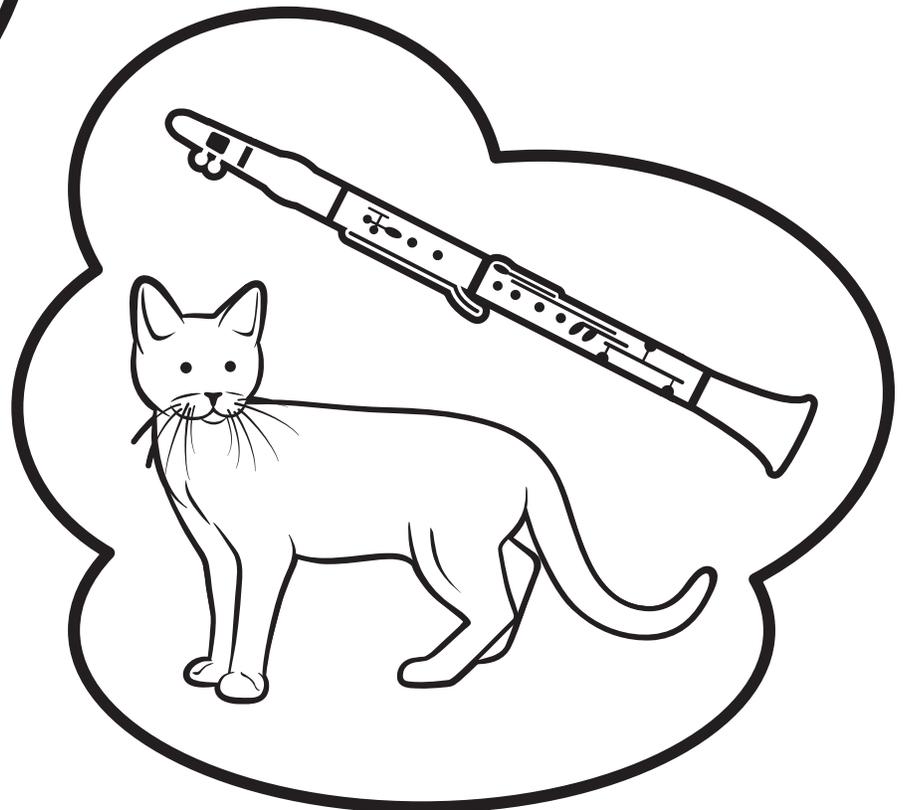
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