

CLASSICAL MUSIC IN YOUR LIFE

LESSON/ACTIVITY PLAN

OBJECTIVE:

1. Raise student awareness of classical music in their lives and the world around them.
2. Students will develop active listening skills.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Create a journal or log entry template for students. Explain that they should document any classical music they hear for an entire week/month/quarter, etc. A sample entry might look like this:

DATE:	January 15, 2015
LOCATION/SETTING:	my home/on TV
TITLE OF PIECE (if known):	???
DESCRIPTION:	I heard classical music on a commercial. A flute and piano and maybe some string instruments were playing. It was quiet and peaceful.

Encourage students to use music vocabulary learned in class (terms like *staccato* or *forte*) and give bonus points if they use those words correctly.

2. Share your findings in class. Ask each student to choose one entry to tell a partner, or begin or end class with one student reporting to the whole group.
3. Extend this activity by integrating content into other subjects/curriculum. Work with a math teacher to compile data and do some statistical analysis. Expand the description section to tie in with literacy. Instead of asking for a general description, specify criteria for the description. For example, ask students to describe the music by writing a paragraph with a topic sentence and three supporting points. You might ask them to describe the music by writing a descriptive poem or by using a certain number of adjectives. Ask them to include both fact (“Drums were playing”) and opinion (“I liked how it sounded.”)

STANDARDS:

1. Grades 4-5. 4. Artistic Process: Respond or Critique.1. Respond to or critique a variety of creations and performances using the artistic foundations. Music. 4.4.1.3.1. Justify personal interpretations and reactions to a variety of musical works or performances.