



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Classroom Concerts: Reed Trio

A Reed Trio is made up of three reed instruments: Clarinet, Oboe and Bassoon. Two of the reed instruments use a double reed and one uses a single reed. Draw a line to match the reed to its instrument.

Oboe



Bassoon



Clarinet

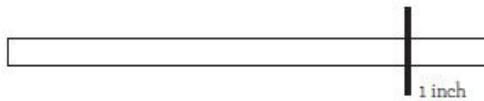


## Make your own reed instrument!

**You will need:** scissors, 1/4-inch diameter straws, individual paper punch, ruler

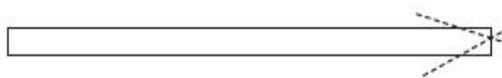
### Step 1:

Flatten the top inch of the straw using your teeth. Try to crease the sides of the straw and not the middle.



### Step 2:

Once the straw is creased, cut the top of the straw into an upside down "V" shape.



### Step 3:

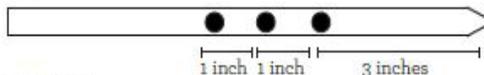
Put at least 1 inch of the straw into your mouth and try not to bite down on the straw. You should be able to blow into the tip to create a kazoo-like sound.



### Extra Step: Adjusting the Pitch:

To cut holes into the straw, first slightly crease the straw. Use the hole punch on the crease to allow the punch to cut only the top layer. Cut the first hole 3 inches from top and each consecutive hole one inch below the first.

Top View:



Side View:



With a lot more work you can also make a clarinet out of a carrot.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LWbj7FYei3M>

# Liberty Bell

## About the composer

John Philip Sousa was an American composer and conductor who lived from 1854 to 1932. He is known as the “March King” because of the many famous marches he composed. He was once part of the United States Marine Band and later formed his own band known as the Sousa Band. He also invented the sousaphone, which is a big brass instrument similar to the tuba that can be easily worn while marching.

## About the piece

The *Liberty Bell March* is an American military march named after the iconic Liberty Bell located in Philadelphia. The President’s Own Band frequently performs this march for presidential inaugurations.

The *Liberty Bell March*, like all marches, is in a brisk duple meter suitable for marching. It also has a typical march form, where there are a number of themes or *strains* that are each repeated. *The Liberty Bell* has four strains, with a form that can be diagrammed as:

**A A B B C D C D C**

## Activity

Watch or listen to the following recording of “The President’s Own” Marine Band performing *The Liberty Bell March*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7FD9PNpfpo>

Teach your students to identify the different strains:

1. Listen to each of the four strains, naming them A, B, C and D. Timings for each strain (corresponding to the link above) are provided:

A (repeated): 0:46	C: 1:53	C: 2:52
B (repeated): 1:20	D: 2:26	D: 3:23
		C: 3:48

2. Play the first phrase of each strain and have the students sing it back.

3. Divide the class into four sections, assigning one strain to each group. Instruct each section to stand up, march and sing along when they hear their theme played.

# John Philip Sousa

Tuba

Sousaphone



# 'Tis a Gift to be Simple

Arr. David Weller

This song (“also known as Simple Gifts”) is a Shaker folk song. Shakers are part of a religious sect that began in England. They value humility, simplicity, hard work, and communal living. During the mid-1800s about 5000 people in the United States were Shaker, today only 12 are left. While the Shaker culture has been gradually declining it remains present through museums, Shaker communities open for tourists, Shaker manufactures of simple furniture and home goods, and songs such as “Simple Gifts.”



## Activity

The words to this song are about “simple gifts:” things that are so important to us, but that cannot be bought. Lead a discussion about what “simple gifts” your students value.

Then teach them to sing “Simple Gifts.” Once they’re familiar with the poetic structure of the song, challenge them to write a new verse about what they identified as “simple gifts.”

# Dragon

Bill Douglas

## About the composer

Many classical music composers such as Mozart or Beethoven lived a long long time ago. Bill Douglas is a living composer, bassoonist, and teacher. He started playing the piano when he was only four, and later learned the ukulele and the guitar. His music has a lot of rock and jazz influences, which can be heard in the rhythmic grooves, accents, and chromaticism.

## Activity

Sing and clap this opening rhythmic figure, which comes back multiple times during the piece.

In a heavy rock groove  
♩ = 84-88

Ob.  
Cl.  
Bsn.

## Create your own melody

Use this online composition tool to have the kids try their hand at composing by writing their own four-bar melody. <http://www.classicsforkids.com/games/compose/compose.html>

# How to be a good audience member

Being a good audience member comes down to respect for the performing musicians and audience members around you. Help your students learn proper concert etiquette with these fun activities:

Discuss and compare the appropriate audience behavior for various settings. For example, would audiences behave differently at a golf tournament or a football game? How does a rock concert compare to a classical concert or a play?

Choose students to act as performers in some of these scenarios. Have them pretend to play a sport or put on a play or perform in a concert. Have the rest of the class pretend to be the audience, using either appropriate or inappropriate audience behaviors you discussed. After the pretend performance is over, ask the performers how the audience's behavior made them feel and how it affected their performance.

## After the performance...

After the performance is over, have your students write or draw about their concert experience. Here are some questions to guide the discussion:

- 1.) What was your favorite piece and why?
- 2.) What was your least favorite piece? What didn't you like about it?
- 3.) Describe one thing you learned from today's performance that you didn't already know.
- 4.) How was listening to a live performance different from hearing music on the radio?
- 5.) Was it difficult to be a good audience member?



Please send students' comments and ideas to [sarah@a2so.com](mailto:sarah@a2so.com)