

Unit Six: Music Inspiring our Visual Art

For unit six, we continue exploring our emotions through music, using visual art to further express ourselves.

Color Theory

Giving each student a piece of paper with a range of colors of crayons, colored pencils, or markers, play the music again and ask the students to choose what colors they feel most represents the feel of the piece.

After listening and drawing, have the students try and verbally reflect by explaining why they chose the colors they did. If the piece were happy, what colors might you chose then? If it's sad?

Remember: there isn't a right or wrong to the colors they choose...the key is to give them the opportunity to practice using their words to express their choice.

Character Exploration

You can have your students draw pictures of what they see when they listen to the music. Guide them towards illustrating any storytelling conflict they see in their imaginations. If they see a monster, *what is that monster doing? Fighting off an army of gnomes? Attempting to swat down an airplane like a fly?* Afterwards, have students share what they drew, to show the different ways their peers interpreted the music.

Talking to Students About Their Art

Begin with an acknowledgement: "You made this and you're showing me!"

Invite the child to lead the discussion. "Can you tell me about this picture?"

If you don't know what something is, don't guess: "Can you tell me about this part?"

Ask questions that invite the child to share their own feelings about the artwork. "What's your favorite part of the picture?"

These suggestions were taken from resourcefulmeartherapy.ca Follow the link for more suggestions!

Other Symphonic Pieces

There are many symphonic pieces written for people to hear specific stories within the music. If students enjoy this musical exploration, try investigating some of these pieces!

Peter and the Wolf by Sergei Prokofiev

Carnival of the Animals
by Camille Saint-Saëns

The Sorcerer's Apprentice
by Paul Dukas