

WONDERLAND



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WELCOME TO WONDERLAND!

You've followed Alice down the rabbit hole and are about to discover the magical world of the orchestra! In this pack, you will find exciting activities to learn a little more about the music in our Wonderland concert

and the instruments of the orchestra, as well as lots of opportunities to be creative and even join the percussion section of the orchestra!

Info for Schools:

- *Best suited for P3/4 and up – promotes listening, writing, art, creative and performance skills.*
- *Watch our **Wonderland concert film** or visit childrensclassicconcerts.co.uk/wonderland*
- *Make use of any resources you have available in class – hand-held percussion, instruments pupils are learning, or even ones you've made – see our **Junk Trunk project**.*
- *For inspiration on creative writing and composing a soundtrack see our **Music Tells a Story project**, also in the Music Sparks series.*
- *Get in touch with us at any time for support or to discuss potential workshop visits in future from our team of musicians (subject to restrictions and funding).*

Info for Families:

- *Get everyone involved – suitable for young siblings and parents alike!*
- *Book in some time over a wet weekend or slow-going school holiday and dive in.*
- *Watch our **Wonderland concert film** or visit childrensclassicconcerts.co.uk/wonderland*
- *Make use of any resources you have available in class – hand-held percussion, instruments pupils are learning, or even ones you've made – see our **Junk Trunk project***
- *For inspiration on creative writing and composing a soundtrack see our **Music Tells a Story project**, also in the Music Sparks series.*
- *Get in touch with us if you have any questions.*



INTRODUCTION AND CONCERT PROGRAMME

Here you will find the **programme** which is a list of the pieces of music in the concert. The title of the piece is followed by the name of the **composer** – that's the name of the person who writes the music! More on that later...

Some of these pieces were written a long time ago. Can you do some research to find out which piece is the oldest? One of the pieces – Jabberwocky – was written in 2020 and in the concert, the orchestra give the first ever performance of the piece. This is called a **premiere**.

Italian Girl in Algiers Overture – Rossini
VVII Finale from 'Suite for Variety Orchestra'
– Shostakovich arr. Paul Campbell

Tritsch Tratsch Polka – Johann Strauss II
Flight of the Bumblebee – Rimsky Korsakov

Jabberwocky – Paul Campbell

Anitra's Dance from Peer Gynt – Grieg

Fiddle Faddle – Leroy Anderson

Waltz from Sleeping Beauty – Tchaikovsky

Tea for Two – Yeomans arr. Paul Campbell

Galop from William Tell – Rossini



MEET THE MUSICIANS

Our Essential Orchestra is made up of 20 musicians playing many different instruments. The instruments in the orchestra belong to four sections or families.

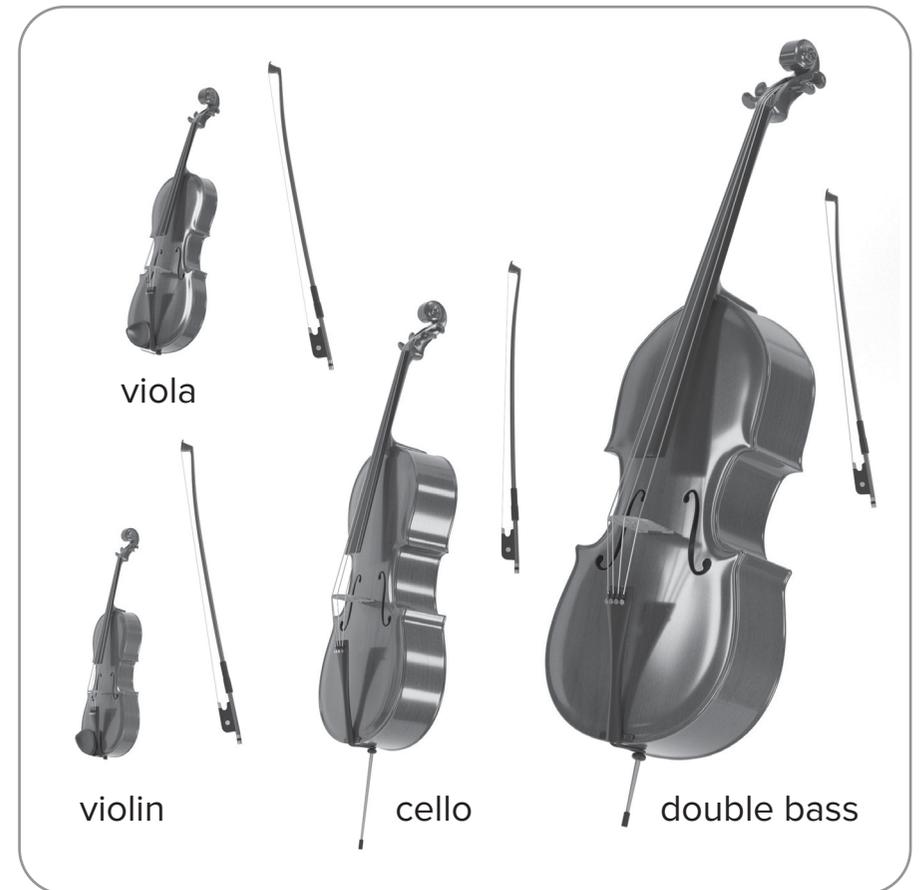
Strings

This is the biggest section in the orchestra and includes the **violin**, **viola**, **cello** and **double bass**. The string instruments are made of wood and have four strings. The sound is made by pulling a bow across the strings which creates a vibration or sound wave. Sometimes the instruments are plucked with the finger instead of using the bow – this is called **pizzicato**.

Listening challenge

Can you hear the strings playing pizzicato in Anitra's Dance?

Which instrument in the string family makes the lowest, deepest sound? How do you know?
(This answer will come in handy in the Queen of Hearts Quiz...)





flute



oboe



clarinet



bassoon

Woodwind

The woodwind section is made up of instruments that need air to make the sound. This is where the 'wind' part of the name comes from. The other part of the name – 'wood' – tells us what the instruments are made from. Have a look at the pictures of the instruments – can you spot the odd one out? One of the instruments, the **flute**, is usually made of metal nowadays, but older versions of the flute were wooden, and this is why it belongs in this family. The sound on a flute is made by blowing across the mouthpiece just like you would blow across the top of a bottle. Can you try making a sound by blowing across a bottle?

The other instruments in the woodwind family, the **oboe**, **clarinet** and **bassoon**, all have **reeds** which vibrate when blown to create the sound.

Extended family

The woodwind instruments each have other instruments that are similar but different in size. It's a bit like having lots of brothers and sisters! The larger low sounding siblings of the clarinet and bassoon are called the **bass clarinet** and **contra bassoon**. In the concert you will hear these instruments setting the scene for the appearance of the dreaded **Jabberwock**. Listen to the piece again and see if you can hear their deep, sinister sounds.

Brass

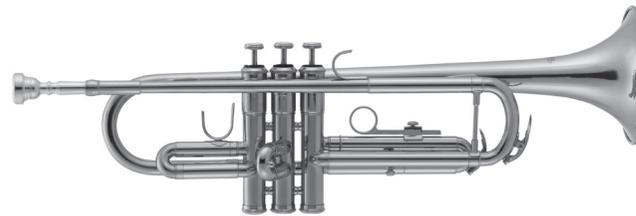
This family of instruments includes the **french horn**, **trumpet**, **trombone** and **tuba**. These instruments are made of metal and, like the woodwind, need air to make the sound. Just blowing into the mouthpiece won't work though – you need to vibrate your lips together as you blow to create the sound. It is a bit like blowing a raspberry! Brass players call this **buzzing**.



french horn



trombone



trumpet



tuba

Odd one out

Three of the brass instruments have **valves** which are pressed down to get different notes. One of the brass instruments doesn't have any valves. Which one is it? How are different notes played on this instrument?

Percussion

This section includes all instruments that we **hit**, **shake** and **scrape**. There are hundreds of different kinds of percussion instruments from all over the world. Percussion instruments fall into two categories – **untuned percussion** that doesn't have a pitch like the **bass drum** and **tambourine** and **tuned percussion** which can play different pitches (a tune!) like the **xylophone** or **glockenspiel**. Can you think of any percussion instruments that you have seen or played in school or at home? Hint: if you have ever tapped your spoon against your bowl at breakfast time you have played percussion!



bass drum



timpani



snare drum



triangle

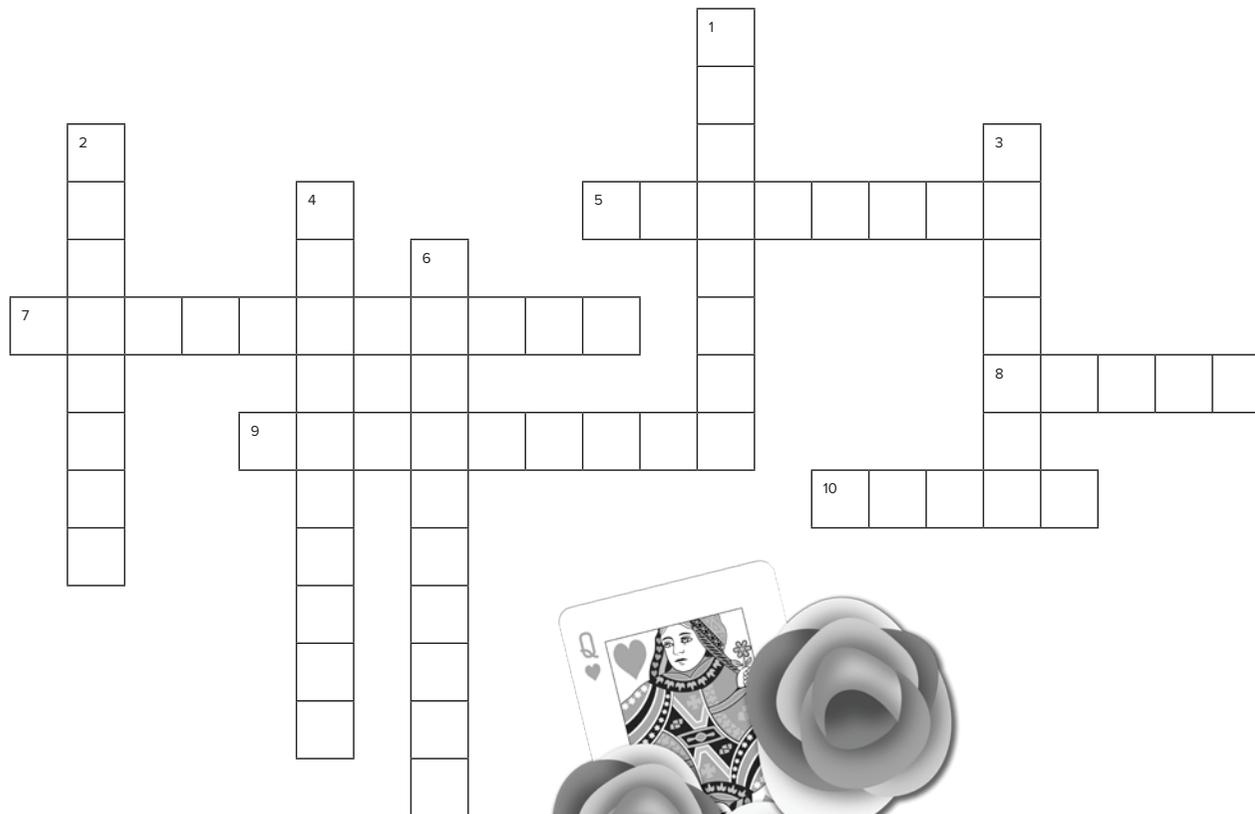
FUN FACTS! DID YOU KNOW?

- The oboe plays the note that the orchestra tune up to before a concert
- If you unravelled the tubing on a french horn it would stretch out to 18 feet or 5.5 metres!
- The cello and double bass have a spike at the bottom so that the instrument doesn't move around on the floor when it is being played
- The clarinet has a cousin that likes to play jazz music – the saxophone
- In a full symphony orchestra there can be as many as 20 violins!
- The vibraphone (see Owen playing this at the beginning and end of Jabberwocky) has a foot pedal which makes the notes ring out for longer



THE QUEEN OF HEARTS QUIZ

Don't disappoint the Queen of Hearts! See if you can find the answers to her questions and fill in this crafty crossword or it'll be 'off with your head!'. Remember to rewatch bits of the film to help or find clues in the Meet the Musicians section. Answers on the last page.



Across

- 5 A person who writes music
- 7 Lewis Carroll wrote a poem about this mythical beast
- 8 Tritsch-Tratsch _ _ _ _ _ – a type of dance
- 9 Rimsky Korsakov wrote a piece of music all about this fast moving insect
- 10 This woodwind instrument is actually made of metal and blown across like a bottle to produce a sound

Down

- 1 This brass instrument has a slide for changing the notes
- 2 The name of the percussion instrument that plays at the beginning and end of Anitra's Dance. It shares its name with its shape
- 3 This brass instrument plays the famous fanfare at the beginning of William Tell
- 4 Owen, Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee love playing instruments from this family
- 6 The biggest and lowest instrument in the string family



JABBERWOCKY

By Lewis Carroll

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

“Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The frumious Bandersnatch!”

He took his vorpal sword in hand;
Long time the manxome foe he sought—
So rested he by the Tumtum tree
And stood awhile in thought.

And, as in uffish thought he stood,
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,
Came whiffling through the tulgey wood,
And burbled as it came!

One, two! One, two! And through and through
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!
He left it dead, and with its head
He went galumphing back.

“And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!
O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!”
He chortled in his joy.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.



The poem **Jabberwocky** was written in 1871 by Lewis Carroll and tells the story of the killing of a mysterious fearsome creature. The poem is unusual and clever as it uses many 'nonsense' words (words that are made up). Below are some of the nonsense words from the poem. What do you think they mean? Read them out to your family and classmates and see what they think the words mean. Did they have the same ideas or come up with something different?

Beamish

Slithy

Mimsy

Chortled

Galumphing

Can you spot any other nonsense words in the poem? Can you think of any made up words of your own? See if your family or classmates can guess what your word means?

In the poem, Lewis Carroll uses the word 'snicker-snack' to describe the sound of the blade. When the sound of a word matches its meaning we call this **onomatopoeia**. Words like 'pop', 'crash' and 'buzz' are onomatopoeias. Can you think of any more?

Creative Writing Challenge

Write a story or poem containing some nonsense words and onomatopoeias. Share this with your class or family and then ask them what they enjoyed about it.



Bring your story to life with music

Paul Campbell, our composer, was so inspired by the story of the Jabberwocky that he wrote music to match the emotions and drama in the poem. Music makes stories and films much more exciting!

Listen carefully to the piece again

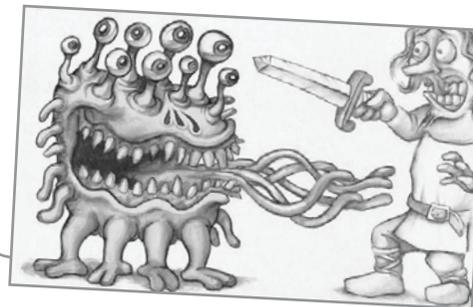
- What happens in the music when the Jabberwock appears and how does this music make you feel?
- Paul writes faster, louder music for the orchestra to play when the Jabberwock is being killed. Why does this fit the action? Would it be as effective with slow, quiet music?
- The poem has the same first and last verse. What do you notice about the music at the beginning and end of the piece?

For videos and activities to help with your creative writing and music making, including help with achieving different sound effects on objects you have lying around at home or in school, check out our [Music Tells a Story](#) resource.

Artistic interpretation

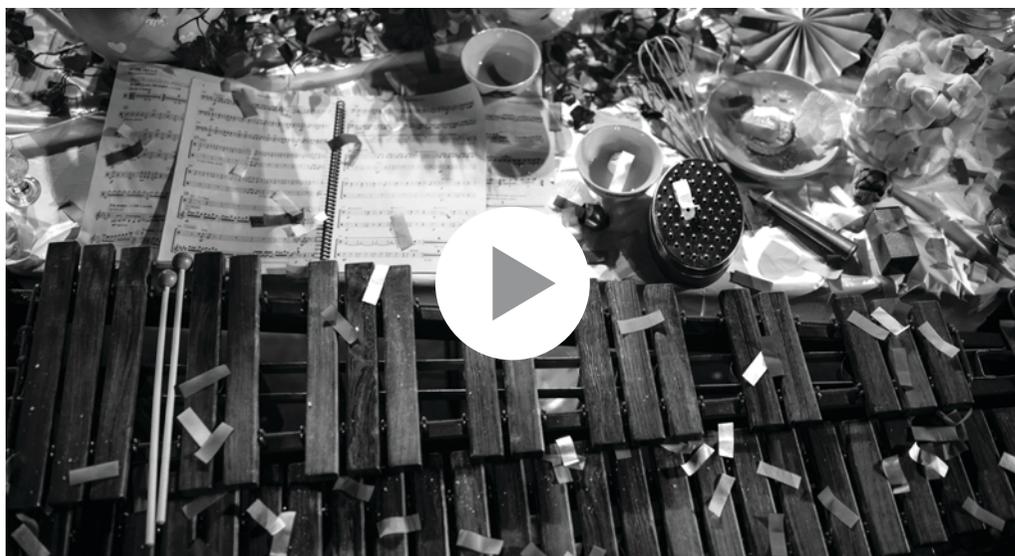
The Jabberwock is a creature from Lewis Carroll's imagination and no one knows what it looks like. Lots of people have created their own pictures of the Jabberwock but there is no right or wrong image. What do you think the Jabberwock looks like? Draw or paint the image the music conjures up in your head and share your picture with your family or class. Are there any similarities?

At CCC we would love to see your pictures, read your stories and hear the music you compose. Find out how to share this with us on the last page.





MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY



Our very own Mad Hatter, Owen, would love it if you could join his tea party percussion section. Watch Owen's video above to learn the different rhythms and choose your instrument – you will discover that there are potential percussion instruments all around you! Maybe you would like to have a go making your own instrument out of recycling? Check out our [Junk Trunk resource](#) for everything you need to know. Happy music making!

Here are the words for the different rhythms and how they look as music notation (written music).

Love-ly cup of tea (sip!)

Cut the cake please

Fill up the tea-pot

Cup cakes with cream

High tea Low tea

Cakes Scones Cakes Scones

KEEP IN TOUCH

Thank you so much for your interest in CCC.

If you're looking for ways to share what you've been doing, please find the details you need, below.

 @CCCLoveMusic  @CCC_LoveMusic  childrensclassicconcerts  Children's Classic Concerts

 ccc@childrensclassicconcerts.co.uk

CCC, 46A Fortrose Street, Glasgow, G11 5LP

What to share:

Your poem or creative writing inspired by Lewis Carroll's Jabberwocky poem

Any drawings or artwork you have created to depict the Jabberwock

A video of your Tea Party percussion piece

Photos or videos of you, your class or family in action!

Wonderland has been created with support from:



Registered charity: SC022841

Crossword answers: ACROSS 5 – Composer, 7 – Jabberwocky, 8 – Polka, 9 – Bumblebee, 10 – Flute, DOWN 1 – Trombone, 2 – Triangle, 3 – Trumpet, 4 – Percussion, 5 – Double Bass.