

“Who Was the Better Composer: Mozart or Beethoven”



Math/Dance Grade 4
Core Concept/Music/Language Arts

Objective: Students will listen to famous musical works by Mozart and Beethoven, and analyze why each composer was considered “Great”.

Grade 4 Core Curriculum Language Arts

Standard 3 Informational Text

Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

Standard 1 Writing

Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

- a. Create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer’s purpose.
- b. Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.

Grade 4 Core Curriculum Fine Arts: Music

Standard 4

Listening The student will listen to, analyze, and describe music.

Objective 1

Recognize quality while creating music performances.

Equipment and Materials needed:

Short Biographies about W.A. Mozart and L.vBeethoven

http://www.classicsforkids.com/composers/composers_atoz.asp is a great resource.

Recording or video of Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (A little night music) by Mozart

Recording or video of Symphony #5 by Beethoven (or an alternative is the final Movement of Ode To Joy Symphony #9)

Writing materials

Day 1: Have students listen to Eine Kleine Natchmusik after reading about the life of Mozart. Students write down why they like or dislike the piece.

Day 2: Have students listen to Beethoven selection after reading about the life of Beethoven. Students write down why they like or dislike the piece.

Day 3: Have students decide which is the better composer by comparing and analyzing their notes.

Day 4: Students will write their final opinion. Their objective is to convince the teacher who is the better composer: Mozart or Beethoven. They must use paragraphs and several supporting details as to why one composer is “better” than the other. No neutral opinions are allowed.