

# Peter and the Wolf

**duration**

The length of a sound.



**timbre**

The particular tone that distinguishes a sound or combination of sounds.



**pitch**

How high or low a sound is.



**beat**

The basic unit of time within music.



**tempo**

The speed of the music.



**texture**

The layers of sound in a musical work and the relationship between them.



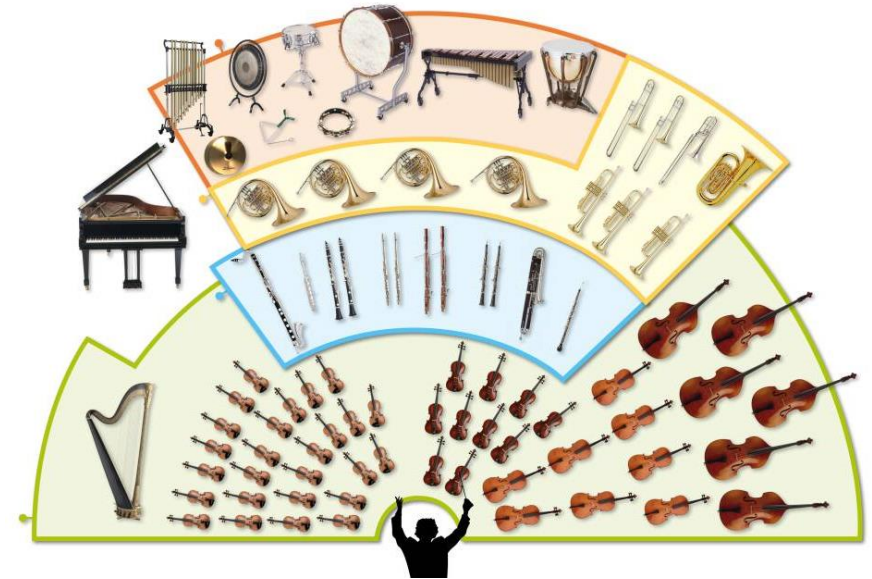
Instruments of the Orchestra

Strings

Woodwind

Brass

Percussion



**Peter and the Wolf**

Sergei Prokofiev wrote this great piece for a children's theater in 1936. He wrote the story and the music as an introduction to the orchestra. Each character is represented by an instrument of a group of instruments.

Sergei Prokofiev was born in Ukraine in 1891. He learned to play the piano at a young age and began composing at age five. Prokofiev wrote ballets, operas and music for films.



### Key Knowledge

Sound is a type of energy. Sounds are created by **vibrations**. The louder the sound, the bigger the **vibration**.

### Key Knowledge

Sound can travel through solids, liquids and gases. Sound travels as a **wave**, **vibrating** the **particles** in the medium it is travelling in. Sound cannot travel through a vacuum.

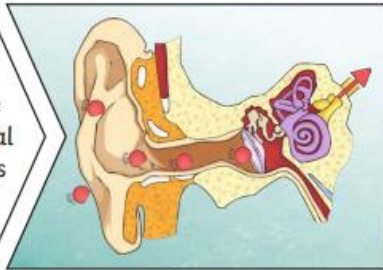
When you hit the drum, the drum skin **vibrates**. This makes the air **particles** closest to the drum start to **vibrate** as well.



The **vibrations** then pass to the next air **particle**, then the next, then the next. This carries on until the air **particles** closest to your ear **vibrate**, passing the **vibrations** into your **ear**.



Inside your **ear**, the **vibrations** hit the **eardrum** and are then passed to the middle and then the inner **ear**. They are then changed into electrical signals and sent to your brain. Your brain tells you that you are hearing a sound.



**vibration**

A movement backwards and forwards.

**sound wave**

**Vibrations** travelling from a sound source.

**volume**

The loudness of a sound.

**pitch**

How low or high a sound is.

**amplitude**

The size of a vibration. A larger **amplitude** = a louder sound.

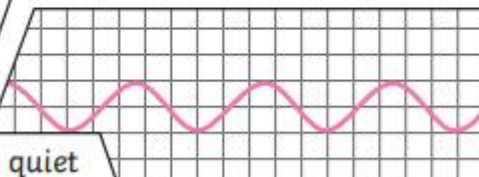
**vacuum**

A space where there is nothing. There are no **particles** in a vacuum.

**particles**

Solids, liquids and gases are made of **particles**. They are so small we are unable to see them.

The size of the **vibration** is called the **amplitude**. Louder sounds have a larger **amplitude**, and quieter sounds have a smaller **amplitude**.



**Pitch** is a measure of how high or low a sound is. A whistle being blown creates a high-**pitched** sound. A rumble of thunder is an example of a low-**pitched** sound.

