



HOW THIS BOOK IS ORGANIZED

Classical Kids recordings have been used in K–9 classes, but are most suitable for Grades K to 6. We have ranked the activities according to grade level with the symbols below. The icon applies to all the activities in the section, unless otherwise indicated. In the Exploring the Music sections, the icon also includes a number indicating the appropriate [National Standard for Arts Education](#).



K–2



3–4



5–6



3–6



All

Presenting the Recording

This recording can be presented in its entirety (approximately 45 minutes), in two halves or in the six scenes outlined here. Each scene is identified in terms of tape time elapsed, CD track numbers and beginning and ending dialogue. You will find in these Teacher’s Notes:

Getting ready: Questions and activities for use before the recording

Scene-by-scene suggestions: For use during the recording

- The story
- Music used in the scene
- Interesting background facts
- Discussion and activity suggestions
- Suggestions for exploring the music

Follow-up: Questions and activities for use after the recording

- Charts: Themes and skills, and a 10-day lesson plan
- Student’s worksheet

Music in the Integrated Curriculum

Although Classical Kids recordings can be enjoyed as musical stories, our aim is to move children from being passive listeners to active participants: to engage their imaginations, to offer new skills and knowledge, to stimulate higher-order thinking skills and, finally, to give every teacher the tools to build a rich learning environment. These Teacher’s Notes present more than 70 facts and thought-provoking questions to move beyond music into an integrated curriculum of social studies, creative writing, math, sciences and the other arts.

Our intent is to provide both specialists and general classroom teachers with engaging materials that expand their students’ knowledge of music and times past. Instead of presenting a basal text of sequential musical skills, Classical Kids urges teachers and their students to “play with” musical concepts, to develop an interpretive vocabulary, to sing or play classical melodies on simple classroom instruments, to write lyrics, even to venture into composition. Children find it difficult to work in a vacuum, so let these recordings serve as a model, captivating young listeners with a moving story and then motivating them to acquire new facts and skills. Put these recordings in your classroom library for repeated listening.