

District 89 K-5 Music

# Music Matters

Create – Perform – Respond – Connect

April 30, 2020

## Carnival of the Animals

The Carnival of the Animals (*Le carnaval des animaux*) is a musical suite written by the French composer Camille Saint-Saëns in 1886. The music was written as a joke for his students. It has since become one of the best-known pieces of classical music for children. Each of the 14 short movements is named for a different animal.

### Movement VII—Aquarium

Click the link to listen to the Carnival of the Animals--Aquarium.

<https://youtu.be/lyFpZ5MZ7kk>



#### Things to Think About

- How does this music make you feel?
- What is the tempo of the music?
- How would you move or dance to this music?
- Does the music sound familiar? Where might you have heard music this before?

Tempo: the pace or speed of music.

Hint: The soundtrack of a Disney animated movie about a French fairy tale was written to sound very similar to this French composer's famous music.

Answer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x2rDrKU6bM>

### Movement XIV—Finale

Click the link to view a clip from Disney's Fantasia 2000 featuring Chicago Symphony Orchestra performing the Finale from the Carnival of the Animals. <https://youtu.be/poz9nZCFmb0>

#### Things to Think About

- How does the music make you feel?
- What tempo did the music use? Fast or slow?
- What instruments do you hear in the excerpt?
- What animals would you draw to go with the music?



## Movement V--The Elephant

Click the link to watch elephants in Thailand as they listen to Carnival of the Animals—Le Elephante played on the piano. <https://youtu.be/kBdogeZfVxk>

### Things to Think About

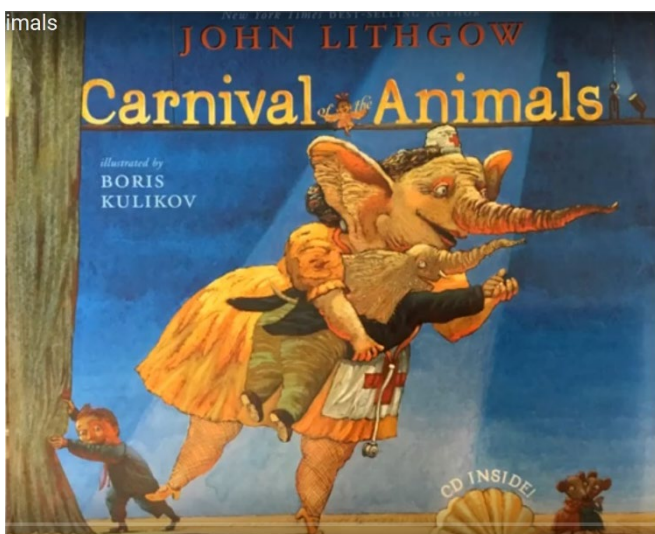
- How does the music make you feel?
- How do you think the elephants felt while listening? Did they seem to enjoy the music?
- What tempo did the music use? Fast or slow?



### From Book to Ballet

After wandering off from a school field trip, a young boy falls asleep in the Natural History Museum. There he sees his classmates, teachers, and family transformed into a menagerie of animals, from wild hyenas to stately peacocks.

Actor and author John Lithgow created the text of this book for the New York City Ballet, where the *Carnival of the Animals* ballet, with his narration, debuted in 2003. Boris Kulikov's witty artistic interpretation of the story adds to the fun.

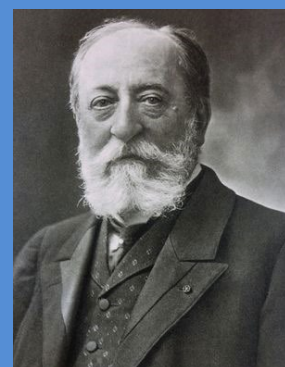


Click the link to listen and read along to picture book, *Carnival of the Animals* by John Lithgow.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfK\\_5las70M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfK_5las70M)

## Composer Corner — Camille Saint-Saens

Charles-Camille Saint-Saëns was born in Paris, France in 1835. He began piano lessons at the age of two and came to be known as one of the outstanding child prodigies of his time. His talent was not limited to music, he also learned to read by age three and spoke French, Latin and Greek. His interests included mathematics, archaeology and astronomy.





## Orchestra Lessons via Zoom

Parents of Orchestra students please contact Ms. Krieb at [robin.krieb@maywood89.org](mailto:robin.krieb@maywood89.org) to schedule a day and time for virtual lessons!



**Elementary Band  
Zoom Meetings  
Wednesdays  
3:30-4:15pm**

**Middle School Band  
Zoom Meetings  
Fridays  
2:30-3:30pm**

## Band Lessons via Zoom

For Zoom meeting info or to schedule lessons, contact Ms. Ciammetti at [cheryl.ciammetti@maywood89.org](mailto:cheryl.ciammetti@maywood89.org)

## Contact Us

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# D89's Greatest Hits

