

THE ART CONNECTION



This plan can be completed during one thirty-minute music lesson.
It was used originally with 3rd graders.

Objective: *To facilitate students connecting the vocabulary of music with visual art.*

Materials used: *Any recording of “The Flight of the Bumblebee”, access to a computer and projection device is optimal for Powerpoint slideshow but multiple copies of Word document is a viable alternative, Berlioz the Bear book (I got my artwork from <http://www.art.com>)*

Lesson Plan

1. Introduction: *Read Berlioz the Bear by Jan Brett to the class. Ask what kind of music might fit this story. (You might share Jan Brett’s recalling the circumstances under which she wrote this book-- http://www.janbrett.com/newsnotes/berlioz_newsnotes2.htm)*

2. *Play Rimsky-Korsakov’s “Flight of the Bumblebee” asking students to close their eyes and decide why or why not this music might fit the story. Encourage the use of music vocabulary in their explanations.*

3. *Ask students to consider their description of the music as they decide which famous artwork looks most like the music sounds. Be clear that there is no right or wrong answer but they must decide on only one work of art.*

4. *Listen again to “Flight of the Bumblebee” as the artwork slideshow is projected or as students in small groups look at Word document or artwork. Allow time for groups to talk about which picture each of them thinks best fits the music.*

5. *Class discussion about which work of art best fit the music. Encourage the use of visual art as well as music vocabulary. Consider grouping students by their choices to share what they thought.*

6. *Play the music one last time as students create their own drawing to fit the music. (Alternative: Show Disney’s “BumbleBoogie” clip from Magic and Music as another interpretation!)*