





# Peter and the wolf

### A fairy tale with music

On the Internet, at

http://it.youtube.com/watch?v=ILI3s7Wo nvg&feature=related let's watch and listen to the really enjoyable cartoon Peter and the Wolf by Walt Disney. This is the beloved children's tale of a young boy who finds the strength and courage to overcome his fears. As you know, in this musical story without any dialogue each character is represented by a corresponding instrument in the orchestra and is described by a musical theme that accompanies his actions like a soundtrack. It might be helpful to first explain this to your children, so that they can try to figure the characters out as the story progresses.

#### Mind map

After having watched and carefully listened to the cartoon, show your children the pictures of the musical instruments that are used in the story. They are: timpani, oboe, horn, viola, violin and cello, clarinet, flute and bassoon. Help your children identify each of them while listening to the story again:

- Peter, the hero, is represented by a strings quartet
- Sasha, the bird, by a flute
- Sonia, the duck, by a oboe
- Ivan, the cat, by a clarinet
- Grandpa is an old bassoon
- The shooting of the hunters' guns by the timpani
- The wolf is represented by the horns

Explain that there are four sections of instruments in an orchestra: strings, woodwind, brass and percussion.

Then divide the blackboard into four parts and write the names of the four sections at the top of each part. Invite your children to guess the right family for each instrument which is present in the story by asking: *Can you mime how to play a violin? Who can guess the family of the violin? Write the names in the* right column. At the end help the children write simple sentences for each instrument: e.g. A violin belongs to the strings and you use a bow to play it.

## Listening to the music

Now give your pupils a list of the names of the instruments and the

characters. Invite the children to choose the right instrument for each character.

Giocando con questa fiaba musicale si imparano i nomi e le famiglie degli strumenti musicali, si individuano motivi che creano atmosfere e ambientazioni o che descrivono personaggi e stati d'animo.

Help them by asking: Do you remember who was the bassoon in the story? At the end invite the pupils to match each instrument to its character. Let your children listen to the music again, one theme at a time. For each theme ask: Listen to the theme... can you remember its actions in the story? Who is it?

The pupils should be able to recognize which character it corresponds to.

#### Assessment

Give your children some pictures of musical instruments: a guitar, a saxophone, a trumpet, a xylophone, the bongos, a banjo, and a recorder. Ask the children to divide them into the four section of the orchestra:

- Woodwind
- Brass
- Strings
- Percussion

After this your pupils can put the names of the instruments of the story into the proper section.