



MEET THE ORCHESTRA

Making Music Together

Orchestra musicians and the conductor work together as a team to create incredible music. Three ingredients that the team must agree on to make music together are:

Tempo

The speed of the music; how fast or slow the beat of the music is played.

Dynamics

The volume of the music, how loud or soft each part of the music is played.

Expression

The feeling of the music, what the music is trying to communicate.

Choose a partner and discover how musicians and conductors work together!

Step 1: Work together to choose a poem or short reading passage to perform.

Step 2: Decide who will be the conductor and who will be the performer.

Step 3: Prepare for your performance.

- **The conductor** prepares for a performance by deciding what they will communicate. How will you show the performer tempo, dynamics, and expression? Use the chart on page 2 to plan what you will communicate to the performer and when. Remember, during the performance you can only use body movements, no words!
- **The performer** prepares for a performance by learning their part inside and out. Practice reading your part out loud. What is your poem/reading passage about? Notice any words that are tricky. Practice saying them very slow and then very fast.



| Preparing for the Performance | | |
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| Tempo: How fast or slow? Will the speed change at any point? | Dynamics: How loud or soft? Does the volume change? When? | Expression: What feelings are you trying to communicate? How? |
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Step 4: Work together to rehearse your performance. Rehearse is a fancy word for practice. During your rehearsal, the performer reads the poem/passage while the conductor directs. Use the plan you outlined above. Rehearse as much as you like until you are comfortable.

Step 5: Performance time! When you are ready, perform your poem/passage from start to finish for your classmates or friends. The conductor directs as the performer shares the poem/passage. Remember, during a performance you keep going no matter what happens!

Step 6: Reflect together on your performance.

- **Performer:** Was the conductor clear with their direction? Why or why not?
- **Conductor:** Did your partner perform the way you wanted? What would you change?

Congratulations!
You did it! BRAVO!