

Please enjoy this complimentary SQUILT lesson. If you enjoy this lesson, you can purchase the [SQUILT curriculum](#), which includes many lessons similar to this one, grouped by musical era.

If you mention this lesson on your blog or website, please link back to my page. Do not distribute this lesson without my permission.

Thanks! Mary @ [Homegrown Learners](#) and [SQUILT Music](#)

Instructions for the Lesson:

Play the piece of music for your child. During the first listening, the child is asked to be "Super Quiet" and listen to the entire piece of music (preferably with their eyes closed).

{Preface this first listening by going over the SQUILT notebooking sheet and prepping them for what they will be listening for: dynamics, rhythm/tempo, instrumentation, and mood. Be sure to tell the child the name of the piece and a little background. }

This is their time to use their imagination and listening ears to glean as much about the music as possible!

After the initial listening, have children discuss the music and notebook their findings on the SQUILT sheet. Listen again together and talk as you listen about what you are hearing. Children are being TRAINED to listen, so you will need to walk them through their first SQUILT lessons.

Little ones may simply color while they listen or talk to you about the music. The goal is to make these lessons short, meaningful, and enjoyable. They are designed to introduce your children to the great musical classics.

SQUILT

Super Quiet Uninterrupted Listening Time

Dynamics

(The Louds and Softs in Music)

Rhythm/Tempo

(Patterns of Sound and the Speed of the Beat)

Instrumentation

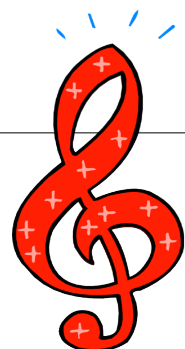
(4 Families: Strings, Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion)

Mood

(How does the music make you feel?)

Title: _____

Composer: _____



**Serenade for Strings, Fourth Movement
(Larghetto)
by Antonin Dvorak**

About the piece: Said to have been written in 12 days in the summer of 1875, this is one of Dvorak's most famous works. He was in his early 30s when he wrote this piece. The piece consists of five different movements, but the fourth is by far the most popular.

**Are you pronouncing the composer's name correctly?
Check [here](#) to find out!*

Listen to [Dvorak's Larghetto from Serenade for Strings](#)

Dynamics: The dynamics in this piece are very restrained – staying in the mezzo piano – piano range. Sometimes the music swells – gets louder. We call this a CRESCENDO. When it dies back down it is called a DIMINUENDO. (You can also write a crescendo like this: < and a diminuendo like this >:)

Rhythm/Tempo: The tempo is larghetto, which means “fairly slow”. There is no change in the tempo throughout the piece.

Instrumentation: As implied in the name of the piece, there are only string instruments used. The string family consists of the violin, viola, cello, and double bass. Which one do you hear the most of?

Mood: Have your children use good ADJECTIVES to describe the music. It is peaceful, romantic, wistful, etc.... It's a great example of music that was written in the ROMANTIC ERA.

Enrichment: Follow along with the music again, using the FORM listening map on the next page. This piece is a great example of ABA form in music. (The A sections sound alike and the B section sounds different.)

Form page answers:

- A section: 0:00-2:45
- B section: 2:45-3:35
- A section: 3:35-end

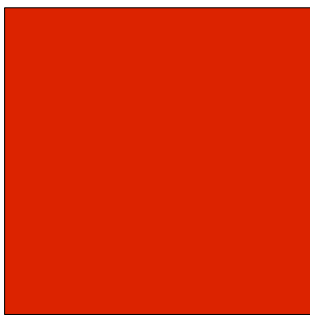
Research and complete the notebooking page about Dvorak. Read about him at [Making Music Fun](#).

FORM

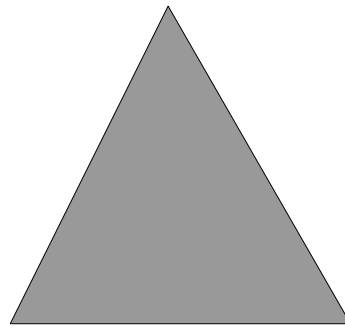
In music, the term “form” means the overall structure or plan of a piece.

Dvorak's Serenade for Strings, Fourth Movement, follows the common form, ABA.

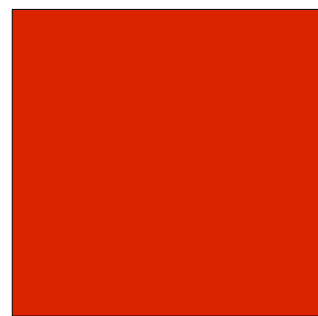
See if you can listen to the piece again and point to the sections as you hear them.
(Answers are on the previous page)



A



B



A

Antonin Dvorak

(1841-1904)



