

Please enjoy this complimentary SQUILT lesson. If you enjoy this lesson, you can purchase the <u>SQUILT curriculum</u>, which includes many lessons similar to this one, grouped by musical era.

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Thanks! Mary @ Homegrown Learners & SQUILT Music

The goal of a SQUILT lesson is to give your child exposure to a piece of beautiful music and to train their ears to listen for the elements of music. It's not so much about filling in the SQUILT notebooking page "correctly" as it is developing attention, discrimination, and appreciation (skills that translate into so much more than music appreciation).

SQUILT lessons can include a little or a lot – as the parent you should judge how much your child can handle in one sitting. It is a wonderful day when your child hears a piece of music and starts talking with you about its finer points!

**Disclaimer:** Each SQUILT lesson includes outside links – many of them YouTube links. As with everything on the internet, please preview these before showing them to your children. I cannot be responsible for comments made on videos or other things of this nature.

#### Instructions for the Lesson:

SQUILT stands for Super Quiet UnInterrupted Listening Time.

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. Listen again together and talk as you listen about what you are hearing. Finish the notebooking page with assistance, if needed.

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:	earners LLC - 2014

## Toccata and Fugue in D minor by Johann Sebastian Bach

**About the piece:** This is one of the most famous pieces written for organ. The date is suspected to have been 1703-1707, but no autographed manuscript of the piece exists. It was published in 1833, by the famous composer Mendelssohn. It grew in popularity, and reached its height in 1940, when Walt Disney included it in his animated film, Fantasia.

<u>Listen to Toccata and Fugue in D minor</u> – nice video to see organ being played <u>Watch the music as Toccata and Fugue is being played</u>

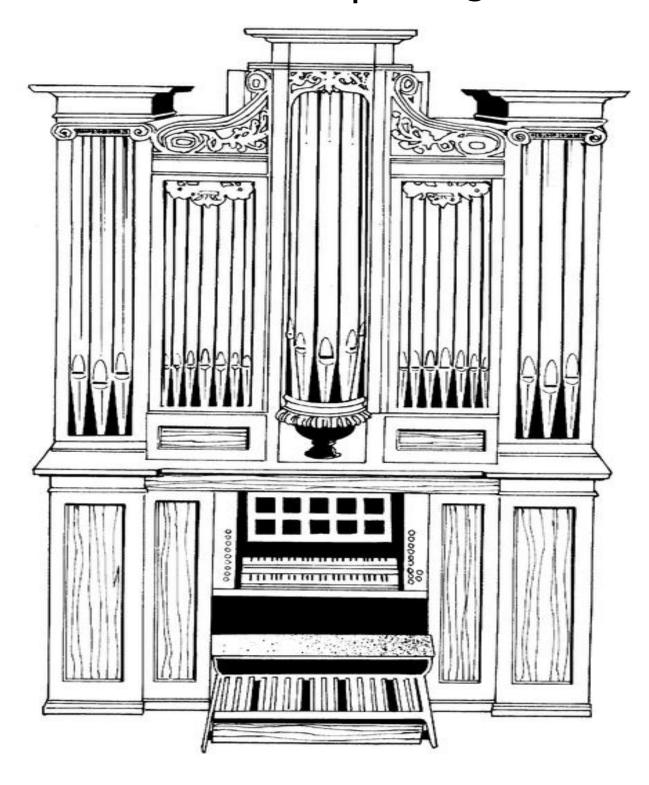
**Dynamics:** Many times this piece is loud (forte), but at other times it gets very soft (piano). Most often it is loudest when the pedals are being played. Have your child listen for the bass sounds and see if they contribute to the dynamics. There is a lot of layering in this piece – each time a new part is added it gets louder and louder.

**Rhythm/Tempo**: The rhythms in this piece are complex. Can you hear some of the rhythms "chasing" each other? (We will explore what a Toccata and Fugue are on the next page.) Bach takes these rhythms and repeats them on different keyboards, then in the pedals. JS Bach was a MASTER of rhythm!

**Instrumentation:** This piece was written for the pipe organ. To learn more about the pipe organ, read this article from <u>Pipe Dreams</u>. (For younger children, explain that a pipe organ is basically a box of whistles!)

**Mood:** Since this piece is in a minor (sad) key, it sounds that way. Do your children associate this piece of music with something scary? Most children do.

### Color the Pipe Organ



### What is a Toccata?

According to the Encyclopedia Brittanica, a toccata is:

A toccata is a musical form for keyboard instruments, written in a free style that is characterized by full chords, rapid runs, high harmonies, and other virtuoso elements designed to show off the performer's "touch."

Listen to this <u>amazing toccata</u> by Charles Widor. Do you think it shows off the performer's skills?

# What is a Fugue?

According to the San Francisco Bach Choir, a fugue is:

A fugue is the most complex polyphonic (many voice) musical form, involving imitation among the parts (called "voices" whether they are vocal or instrumental). The word fugue comes from *fuga*, meaning to chase since each voice "chases" the previous one.

Listen to this <u>Bach fugue</u> played on the guitar. Can you hear the voices chasing each other?

#### **Supplemental Activity:**

Research JS Bach and complete the following notebook page.

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### Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)