

Music Lesson Plans: Judkins



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Grade: **Second Grade**

Title: **Composer: George Frideric Handel**

Week: January 20-31

Source: Various

Materials: biography, portrait, listening examples and video

MPG/Big Idea:
MPG3: Listen to music with understanding

State Standard:
9.2

Enduring Understandings:

3. Music from various styles, cultures and historical eras globally affects all individuals

Essential Questions:

3. How does music impact all of us?

Knowledge:

1. Musical works and composers from varied historical periods are an important component of musical literature
2. Music often captures and mimics unique historical periods and events
3. Significant musical works and composers continue to impact music

Skills:

Historical Context

1. Recognize musical examples from various historical periods
2. Recognize significant composers and/or musicians from various genres and periods
3. Relate musical works to varying styles, genres and periods in which they were created
4. Relate musical works to historical events

Procedure:

1. View a flipchart which includes the following information:
 - a. What is baroque music? The baroque period of history is from about the year 1600 to about 1750 (in other words, it is a long time ago!) Everyone tried to out-do each other. Clothes, wigs, paintings, architecture, and music were ornamental and very elaborate. It is important to remember that baroque music is a style of music. It is not an exact period of time.
 - b. If you listen to a lot of baroque music you will begin to recognize the style, even if you can't describe it. And if you study the music very carefully you will begin to notice common features. Two of the most common features are:
 - Lots of 'twiddly bits'Baroque music has lots of quick wiggles backwards and forwards on a single note. These wiggles don't really add anything to the tune. They are simply there as decoration.
 - Lots of different lines of music (or 'tunes') all

going their own way.

These single tunes weave together to make the whole music

c. Read a biography of George Frideric Handel. Handel was born on February 23, 1685, the same year as Baroque composer Johann Sebastian Bach. George's father wanted him to be a lawyer even though he loved music. His mother, however, supported his interest in music and he was allowed to take keyboard and music composition lessons. His aunt gave him a harpsichord for his seventh birthday which Handel played whenever he had the chance.

In 1702, Handel followed his father's wishes and began to study law. After his father's death the following year, he returned to music and accepted a position as an organist. In the next year he moved to Hamburg and accepted a position as a violinist and harpsichordist at the opera house. It was there that Handel's first operas were written and produced.

In 1712, he settled in England where Queen Anne gave him a yearly income. In the summer of 1717, Handel premiered one of his greatest works, *Water Music*, in a concert on the River Thames. The concert was performed by 50 musicians playing from a barge positioned closely to the royal barge from which the King listened. It was said that King George I enjoyed it so much that he requested the musicians to play the suite three times during the trip!

By 1740, Handel completed his most memorable work - the *Messiah*. It is said that when the king first heard the "*Hallelujah Chorus*" he rose to his feet. This tradition continues today.

On April 6, 1759 Handel conducted his last performance of the *Messiah* and returned home in poor health. He died on April 14, 1759 and was buried in Poet's Corner of Westminster Abbey in London, England. More than 3000 people attended his funeral

d. Display a portrait

e. Differentiate between opera and oratorio

2. View the historical biography "Handel's Last Chance" Set during the composer's struggle to write his masterpiece, "The Messiah", the film focuses on one of his most significant compositions. The film features performances of some of Handel's most famous compositions including, "Water Music", "Music For the Royal

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| | <p>Fireworks", and "The Messiah". The film will introduce students to instruments of the Baroque era, biographical information of the composer, information on performance opportunities during the Baroque era, as well as multiple examples of Handel's music.</p> <p>Time:</p> |
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Assessment:
-passive listening