

## IN BRIEF

**The Littlest Pop Star** is about the childhood of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, one of the greatest composers of all time. It follows his early adventures as he travelled around Europe playing to kings and emperors, and will hopefully encourage readers to explore classical music!



### 1

## LITERACY LESSON IDEAS

- Find out the definitions of tricky words in this month's issue of **Storytime** by looking them up in the **Glossary**. After you have looked up a word, try using it in a sentence!
- Did you enjoy reading about young Mozart and his story? Answering the questions on the **Class Discussion Sheet** is a good way to start thinking about the young composer and what he experienced.
- Read the extract on the **Reading Comprehension Sheet** and answer the questions, which are about the different kinds of words used in the story.
- Tell the story of Mozart in your own words by writing it on the **Storyboard** – using the colourful illustrations for inspiration!
- Fill in the boxes on the **Story Structure Sheet** to work out the most important things about this month's story.
- What is sound, and what are some of the words that can be used to describe it? **The Sound of Music** worksheet has the answers!
- The events of Mozart's life have been mixed up on the **Story Sequencing Sheet** – and it's up to you to put them back in the right order.
- Imagine what it would be like to get up on stage and play an amazing show in front of a cheering audience. Write about it on the **Pop Star Diary** page.
- Somebody has written a short story about Mozart's life – but has put pictures in place of some of the words! Can you work out what they mean in the **Rebus Challenge**?

Continued on page 2...

## 2

## MUSIC LESSON IDEAS

- ‘The Littlest Pop Star’ introduced us to the story of Mozart – but the best way to appreciate his genius is to listen to his music. Why not play two pieces of his music and talk about how they make you feel? Discuss how the two pieces are different, and see if you can hear the parts played by different instruments. *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* and *Requiem in D minor* might be good pieces to start with.
- ‘The Littlest Pop Star’ only tells us part of Mozart’s story! Find out more on the **Mozart’s Top 10!** fact sheet.
- What are the different aspects of music that can be used to create wonderful tunes? Find out by cutting out the **Music Theory Cards** and matching the musical terms with their definitions!
- Find out fun musical facts on the **Instrument Trivia** page!
- Musical instruments can create sounds in many different ways. On the **How do You Play?** sheet, see if you can put all the instruments in the right categories – are they string, brass, woodwinds or percussion instruments?
- Match the pictures of all the different instruments with their names on the **Matching Game** sheet – and can you spot and name the extra instrument?

## 3

## ART LESSON IDEAS

- Imagine that you are a musician who really wants to impress everybody at a big concert. Add some bling to your instrument on the **Colour My Cello!** activity page.
- Can you come up with your own wacky and wild musical instrument and draw it in the **Invent an Instrument!** picture frame? Do you blow it or hit it to make a sound? Does it have strings, a keyboard, or both? You can even mix lots of instruments together.

## STORYTIME GLOSSARY

1 OF 2

### The Long Winter (Page 6)

- ▷ **Starve** – go hungry
- ▷ **Council** – meeting
- ▷ **Volunteered** – offered
- ▷ **Eternal** – lasting forever
- ▷ **Cubs** – young animals
- ▷ **Shrugged** – moved their shoulders
- ▷ **Canoe-paddle** – thing for rowing with
- ▷ **Stranded** – stuck
- ▷ **Gnawed away** – chewed
- ▷ **Graceful** – smooth-moving
- ▷ **Venison** – meat from a deer
- ▷ **Almighty** – great
- ▷ **Cushioned** – softened
- ▷ **Thudded** – hit with a sound like ‘thud’
- ▷ **Sprouted** – grew

### The Littlest Pop Star (Page 11)

- ▷ **Composer** – person who writes music
- ▷ **Tingly** – ticklish or excited
- ▷ **Fascinated** – very interested
- ▷ **Sneaking in** – going in secretly
- ▷ **Talent** – natural ability
- ▷ **Scribbled** – written roughly
- ▷ **Marzipan** – treat made of almonds
- ▷ **Carriage** – vehicle pulled by horse
- ▷ **Inns** – old-fashioned hotels
- ▷ **Waltz** – kind of dance
- ▷ **Holy Roman Empire** – empire that existed in what is now Austria/Germany
- ▷ **Unheard-of** – very unusual
- ▷ **Operas** – kind of musical plays

Look up the meanings of tricky words from this month's stories!

- ▷ **Performance** – show
- ▷ **Rumours** – gossip
- ▷ **Sabotage** – stop through trickery
- ▷ **Masterpieces** – great pieces of work

### The Snowman's Holiday (Page 16)

- ▷ **Finishing touch** – the last bit
- ▷ **Reckon** – think
- ▷ **Twiggy** – like a twig
- ▷ **Yawn** – opening of mouth when tired
- ▷ **Dumbstruck** – so shocked he couldn't talk
- ▷ **Dipped** – went down
- ▷ **Widened** – grew wider
- ▷ **Snorkels** – tubes for breathing underwater
- ▷ **Echoey** – causing echoes
- ▷ **Flight attendant** – helper on aircraft
- ▷ **Scrambling** – moving quickly
- ▷ **Conveyor belts** – moving beltss
- ▷ **Jet-lagged** – tired from flying long way
- ▷ **Shimmering** – shining
- ▷ **Mirage** – rippling of air caused by heat
- ▷ **Crashing** – making ‘crash’ noise
- ▷ **Gazed** – looked

### Pinocchio and the Monster Downstairs (Page 22)

- ▷ **Creature** – animal or monster
- ▷ **Stirring** – moving
- ▷ **Log** – rough piece of tree
- ▷ **Scrabbling** – making ‘scrabble’ noise
- ▷ **Fib** – lie
- ▷ **Spectacles** – glasses
- ▷ **Scruffy** – not neat or tidy

## STORYTIME GLOSSARY

2 OF 2

### The Christmas Fairy of Strasbourg

(Page 24)

- ▷ **Nobleman** – important person
- ▷ **Fine furs** – nice fur clothing
- ▷ **Streams** – little rivers
- ▷ **Ravines** – very narrow valleys
- ▷ **Hunting-party** – group of hunters
- ▷ **Drain** – take water out of
- ▷ **Jig** – dance
- ▷ **Ebony** – kind of dark-coloured wood
- ▷ **Overjoyed** – very happy
- ▷ **Cloaks** – long pieces of cloth worn on back
- ▷ **Chamber** – room
- ▷ **Grief-stricken** – very sad
- ▷ **In honour of** – in memory of
- ▷ **Fairy-folk** – fairy people

### Saint Nicholas and the Children

(Page 31)

- ▷ **Broth** – soup
- ▷ **Wilderness** – wild area
- ▷ **Trudging** – walking as if tired
- ▷ **Carving** – shaping with a blade
- ▷ **Butcher** – person who sells meats
- ▷ **Trusted** – believed
- ▷ **Timidly** – in a shy way
- ▷ **Slamming** – closing with loud noise
- ▷ **Peep** – sound like ‘peep’
- ▷ **Stomping** – stepping loudly

- ▷ **Knothole** – hole in wood

- ▷ **Hooked** – bent

- ▷ **Scarlet** – red

- ▷ **Pickle** – vegetable in vinegar

- ▷ **Pried** – lifted up

- ▷ **Loom** – appear in a scary way

- ▷ **Charged after** – ran after

### The Wolf and the Kid (Page 37)

- ▷ **Flock** – group of sheep or goats
- ▷ **Goatherd** – person who cares for goats
- ▷ **Meadows** – fields of grass
- ▷ **Bleated** – made sound like ‘bleat’
- ▷ **Penny-whistle** – small metal flute

### Pandora's Box (Page 40)

- ▷ **Disease** – sickness
- ▷ **Protect** – help
- ▷ **Took pity on** – felt sorry for
- ▷ **Civilization** – human society
- ▷ **Forge** – workshop for making metal things
- ▷ **Untrustworthy** – not to be trusted
- ▷ **Curiosity** – wanting to know things
- ▷ **Pried** – lifted
- ▷ **Trapped** – caught
- ▷ **Overcome** – deal with

# AWESOME ADVENTURES: THE LITTLEST POP STAR

Storytime™  
TEACHING RESOURCES

## CLASS DISCUSSION SHEET

### TEXT QUESTIONS

We hope you enjoyed the amazing story of Mozart in this month's featured story. Can you answer these questions about it?

1. What do you think made Mozart want to start playing music?
2. Based on the story, it is clear that Mozart loves music – but what is another thing that he loves and is important to him?
3. Mozart and his music are very popular with the audiences that he plays for, but in the story, which people don't like Mozart or his success? Why do you think this is?
4. What are two good things and two bad things about Mozart going on tour to play his music?
5. Mozart partly became famous because he was talented – but what also helped him to become famous and successful?

### WRITE IT!

Which three words would you choose to describe Mozart, the littlest pop star?

I would describe Mozart as being:

\_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ .

Answers: He started to play music because it excited him and made him feel amazing. 2. In the story, spending time with his family is important to Mozart. 3. Some other composers don't like Mozart because they are jealous of his talent or believe his father actually wrote his music. 4. Two good things about going on tour are seeing new places and spending time with his father and sister. Two bad things are the smelly inns and the cold and uncomfortable carriages. 5. The help and support of his father helped Mozart to become famous.

# AWESOME ADVENTURES: THE LITTLEST POP STAR

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## READING COMPREHENSION SHEET

Read this extract from 'The Littlest Pop Star' – and then answer the questions about the words that are used in it!

*When it was time to play, Wolferl dressed to impress in his finest wig and coat and was led into a grand mirrored room in a huge palace...*

*It was filled with very important-looking people in fancy clothes, but Wolferl didn't worry – he just sat down at his clavier and put on an amazing show! Everybody cheered, and the palace's music-master told him, "You are a real musician!"*

1. In this extract, there are two adjectives (describing words) that are used to talk about clothes. What are they? (Clue: they both begin with 'f'.)
2. What do you think the adjective 'mirrored' means in this extract? (Clue: what smaller word can you find in 'mirrored'? )
3. 'Everybody' is a pronoun (a word that can be used instead of a noun in a sentence). What does it mean?
4. Which two words in the extract describe how big and impressive the palace is?
5. Which sentence in this extract is direct speech? (Clue: direct speech has quote marks at the beginning and end.)

**Answers:** 1. Finest and fancy. 2. 'Mirrored' means covered in mirrors. 3. 'Everybody' means every person, or all the people! 4. Grand and huge. 5. "You are a real musician!" is direct speech. What Word? – frightened.

### WHAT WORD?

Which one of these words does NOT describe how Wolferl is feeling in this extract?

**HAPPY**

**CALM**

**FRIGHTENED**

**EXCITED**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

# THE LITTLEST POP STAR: STORYBOARD

Retell the story of Wolferl the little genius by writing what happened to him under the pictures on this storyboard.



1



2



3



4



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

## STORY STRUCTURE SHEET



Where is the story set?

When is the story set?

Who are the main characters in the story?

What is the main problem in the story?

What is the solution?

How does the story end?

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

# AWESOME ADVENTURES: THE LITTLEST POP STAR

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## THE SOUND OF MUSIC

### What is sound?

Sound is created when something vibrates and sends waves of energy (vibrations) into our ears. The vibrations travel through the air or another medium (solid, liquid or gas) to the ear.

The stronger the vibrations are, the louder the sound is. Sounds get fainter the further you go from the source of the noise!

Instruments usually make very pleasant sounds, when played well! We have listed a few adjectives below related to sound and music. Can you circle the **pleasant sounds** only?

### Pleasant or unpleasant?

Loud      Squeaky      Melodious      Faint

Noisy      Deafening      Harmonious      Quiet

Creaky      Harsh      Mute

Soft      Hissing      Screeching

WRITE  
IT!

Choose three words to describe the sound of a mobile phone ring tone.



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Answers: Loud, melodious, faint, harmonious, quiet and soft sounds can be pleasant.

# AWESOME ADVENTURES: THE LITTLEST POP STAR

## STORY SEQUENCING SHEET

Oh no – a jealous composer has mixed up the events of Mozart's life! Can you put them in order?

Before long, Wolferl was making up his own tunes on the instrument. His father was very surprised when he found out!

One day, Leopold announced to Wolferl and Nannerl that they were going on tour to play music to important people.

Wolferl was very excited when his father told him that they would be going on tour to Italy! They finally arrived after a long, hard journey.

When Wolferl was three, his father Leopold decided to teach his sister Nannerl how to play the clavier. The boy was fascinated!

Wolferl's first really big show was in the city of Vienna, where he played for the royal family of the Holy Roman Empire.

Leopold quickly realised that Wolferl had a special talent for music, and gave up composing to teach his son and daughter.

The Holy Roman Emperor told Wolferl that he should write his own opera. He did – but some composers tried to stop it being performed!

Wolferl was born in Salzburg in the 18th century. From early childhood, he loved music.

Wolfgang and his family then played at the royal courts of Europe, and Wolferl found out about a new kind of music called opera.

Wolferl loved Italy, and the Italians loved his music. He played many shows, and people clapped and cheered for him.

When his father and sister were finished, little Wolferl sneaked into the room and worked out how to play the clavier.

## AWESOME ADVENTURES: THE LITTLEST POP STAR

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# POP STAR DIARY

Imagine that you are a great musician, and have just played your first show before a cheering audience. Write an imaginary diary entry that describes what it was like, including the sights and sounds and how you felt while performing!

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# REBUS CHALLENGE

Here is the story of Mozart – but pictures have replaced some of the words! Can you work out what they mean?

Mozart was born in 1765, in Salzburg, Austria. When he was 3 he taught himself to play the clavier, but he later learned the  as well. He soon started writing  too! When Mozart was still just a , he went on tour with his family and played concerts while wearing a fancy ! The  of France was a big fan, and  when he played!

# MOZART'S TOP 10!

1

Mozart started writing music at the age of 5. He could listen to music just once and then go away and write it down without any mistakes!

2

When Wolferl played for the emperor's family in Vienna, he was given hand-me-down clothes from the emperor's children as a gift!

3

He met Marie Antoinette, the future French queen, when he was 6 and they played together as kids in the palace outside Vienna!

4

Mozart published his first piece of music, a violin sonata in five parts, while touring in Paris. He was just 8.

5

Mozart was given a job by von Colloredo, the Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg, but his boss did not want him to go on tours to play his music. After an argument, von Colloredo had his servants kick the musician out of the door!

6

Mozart was very popular in the fancy balls in Vienna and his concerts were often sold out. He married a soprano singer he met on stage, called Constanze Webber.

7

Mozart had a pet starling. Starlings are amazing mimics, and his pet could copy a melody from his *Piano Concerto No. 17 in G major (K453)*.

8

He did not finish the final piece of music he was paid for. *Requiem Mass in D minor* was finished by his student, Franz **Xavier** Süssmayr.

9

Salzburg, Mozart's home city, celebrates his birthday every year with an 11-day party – which of course includes many concerts!

10

There's a chocolate named after him in Austria too! The *Mozartkugel* (Mozart ball) is a small, round sweet made of pistachio marzipan and nougat, covered with dark chocolate. It was created in 1890.



## INSTRUMENT TRIVIA

Check out these amazing facts about musical instruments from around the world!



Over **70 pieces** of wood are used to make a violin. Each violin bow contains between 150 and 200 hairs, which can be natural or man-made.

The word **ukulele** means ‘jumping flea’ in Hawaiian. This is because of the very fast finger movements needed to play it!

A **piano** is called a percussion instrument because it plays a note when a hammer hits a string.

On a piano, the **white keys** are the **natural notes**, and the black keys are the sharp and flat notes.

Although horns are made out of **brass** today, animal horns were used in ancient times. At first they were used to communicate across long distances.

**Bagpipes** weren’t invented in Scotland! It is thought that they were used in Ancient Rome and the Middle East thousands of years ago.

The pipes of many brass instruments are bent because otherwise the instrument would be too long to play. The pipes in a tuba are about **7 metres long!**

The **theremin** is an electrical instrument that is played without being touched by the player. It has two metal antennae to sense the positions of the player’s hands. One hand controls the pitch and the other hand controls the volume. The player moves his hands around the two antennae to make sounds!

# MUSIC THEORY CARDS

The different elements of music shown on the cards below help music to sound exciting and interesting, and can be used to describe it. Cut out the cards and match the musical term with the right description – if you need some help, the element and its description are the same colour!

Dynamics	How high or low a sound is	How long a note lasts
Tempo		
Pitch	How loudly or quietly the music is played	The speed the music is played at
Timbre		
Duration	The special sound of the music	How the melody, rhythm and harmony mix together
Texture		
Melody	The form and arrangement of a piece of music	The way the notes are put together to make a tune
Structure		

# AWESOME ADVENTURES: THE LITTLEST POP STAR

## HOW DO YOU PLAY?



In an orchestra, there are four families of instruments; string, woodwind, brass and percussion. The conductor stands at the front and directs the musicians. Can you put the instruments below in the right group?

Percussion	Brass
Percussion instruments are played by striking, shaking or scraping them.	The brass instruments' sound is made by the vibration of the lips of the player against the mouthpiece.
Strings	Woodwind
The string instruments' sound is made either by pulling a bow across a string, or plucking it.	Woodwind instrument sounds are made by the player blowing across a reed or the edge of a mouthpiece.

Bass Piano Cello Trumpet Triangle Drum

Tambourine Flute Tuba Trombone Oboe

Harpsichord Saxophone Violin Clarinet Cymbal

## MATCHING GAME!

Can you match the instruments below to their names? The name of one of the instruments is missing – do you know which one it is and what it is called?



- 1. DRUM KIT**
- 2. PIANO**
- 3. SAXOPHONE**
- 4. BANJO**
- 5. TAMBOURINE**
- 6. XYLOPHONE**
- 7. TRUMPET**
- 8. VIOLIN**

The instrument  
not on the list is:

Answers: A. 5, B. 4, C. 8, D. 7, E. 2, G. 3, H. 1, I. 6. The instrument that is not on the list is the harp (G).

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

## TISSUE BOX GUITAR

Would you like to make music? Follow these instructions to make a fun paper guitar!

### YOU WILL NEED

- Empty tissue box
- 4 large rubber bands
- Scissors
- Paper towel tube
- Tape
- Glue
- Ice lolly sticks
- Paint, paper, stickers, etc (for decorating)



**TOP TIP!**  
Use both thick and thin rubber bands. Each one will give you a different sound!

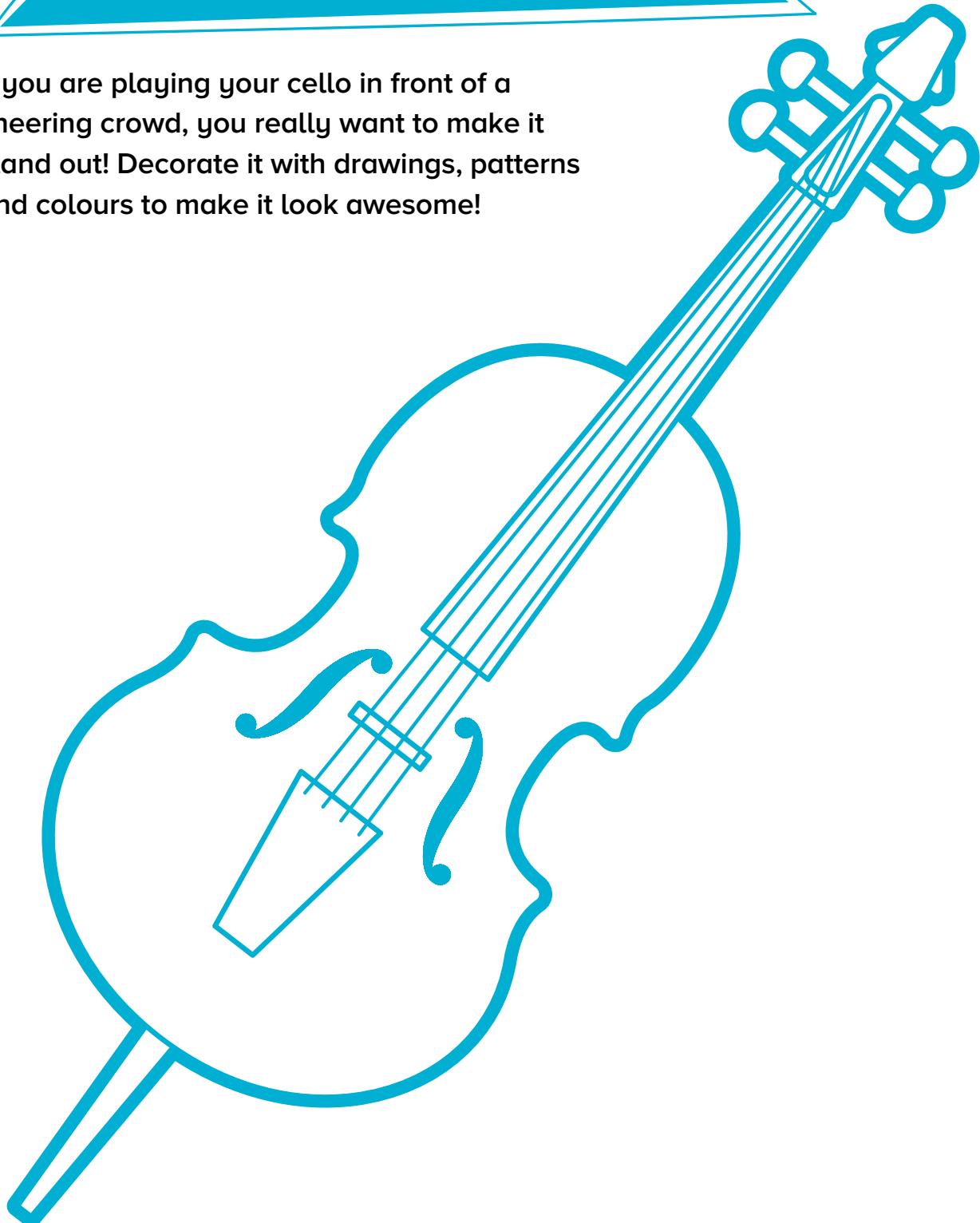
### HOW TO DO IT:

1. Find an empty tissue box and cut out the hole a bit to make it larger.
2. Tape the paper towel roll down to one of the narrow ends of the box. The tube should be lined up with the hole in the box.
3. Decorate the box (which will be the body of your guitar). You can decorate the guitar with wrapping paper, add colour with acrylic paint or markers, or put stickers on it!

4. Draw a horizontal line of glue above and below the hole. Press an ice lolly stick down onto each line of glue and let it dry. The sticks will lift the bands and make the guitar sound better.
5. Wrap four large rubber bands around the box lengthwise. You want two rubber bands on the left side of the tube, and two rubber bands on the right side of the tube. Position the rubber bands so that they are right over the tissue hole.
6. Play with your guitar by plucking or strumming the strings!

# COLOUR MY CELLO!

If you are playing your cello in front of a cheering crowd, you really want to make it stand out! Decorate it with drawings, patterns and colours to make it look awesome!



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

## INVENT AN INSTRUMENT!

In this pack, you have found out about many of the amazing instruments that exist in the real world – but can you invent an incredible imaginary instrument and draw it below? Does it have strings, or do you hit it or blow into it? Make it as wild as you like!

My new instrument is called a: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_