



CLIBURN IN THE CLASSROOM

WHAT'S THE SCORE?

A Fantasy Football-style Playoff at the Piano

CLASS ACTIVITY:

Music Class (Paper) Football

Grade Level(s): 2-5

Subject Areas: Music, Creative Writing, Social Studies, Theater

OBJECTIVE

Students will work both independently and as a team to design and perform the major elements of the Super Bowl – commercials, halftime show, and the football game itself. This activity may be done over the course of several class periods to allow time for creativity and editing, in part or in whole.

SPACE AND EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Students will need school-issued Chromebooks or iPads with internet access and Garage Band or other basic music mixing software. Students will also need a GoPro or iPhone camera to record commercials; these can be school-issued or personal devices. Optional: costumes may be used for commercials, which can be brought from home, borrowed from your school's theater department, or donated.

MUSIC TO EXPLORE

Any halftime show music that is elementary appropriate. Watch recent and historical halftime shows and commercials to introduce students to bands, jingles, and products from the last few decades to see how musical, staging, and style trends have changed. This [YouTube video](#) is a great starting point.

ACTIVITY

1. Start with students working independently to design a 30-second Super Bowl commercial, one per person in the class. Each student should identify a product or service that they or their family use and storyboard a commercial for it. Alternatively, they can invent an entirely new product. Encourage students to set the scene for their advertisement by using props, recording outdoors, or drawing backgrounds on the class whiteboard. Costumes may also be used if desired/if available. Allow students to use Garage Band to record and mix jingles for their chosen product. Once storyboarded, have students record their commercials and upload them to Google Classroom.
2. Have students work collaboratively to design a halftime show. Brainstorm what songs they have learned in class ensembles: Orff, bucket drum, ukulele, mariachi, choral, or others. Make a setlist and think of basic ways to enhance the show (black lights, strobe lights, bubbles, balloons, etc).
3. Lastly, have a paper football Super Bowl! Divide the class into two teams and allow students to play a game of paper football. Intermittently pause the game to play a commercial. Approximately halfway through the class period, pause the game to perform the halftime show. Invite your school administration to watch and cheer as spectators.



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HOW TO PLAY PAPER FOOTBALL

1. Make a paper football by folding an 8 ½ by 11 sheet of paper lengthwise. Cut along the fold to make two half sheets; only one half sheet is needed to make a football, though two games could run simultaneously if class size is large. Fold one half of the sheet lengthwise. Make sure the folded paper is placed vertically, with the opening facing right. Fold the bottom right corner upwards to form a triangle. Repeat until one fold is left to make a complete triangle. Insert the remaining corner into the folds of the football.
2. Clear a long table or create one by pushing several student desks together. Flat surface is best.
3. Create a goal post. This can be made using a paper cup and pipe cleaners, or to simplify, students can take turns making goal posts with their fingers.
4. Determine the length of the game by length of the class. Set a timer to play student commercials and the halftime show. Winner is determined by most points scored during the time allotted.
5. Determine how many attempts each player gets to move the ball toward the goal. Then divide the class into two teams. One student per team takes turns flicking the football. NOTE: The ball can only be moved by flicking; scooting the ball across the desk is not allowed.
6. To score a touchdown, the paper football must slightly hang over the opposite edge of the table. Score for a touchdown can be six points, as it is in a regular football game, or one point to simplify for younger grades. A touchdown must be scored within the allotted number of attempts to move the ball.
7. If a touchdown is made, student is then allowed to kick a field goal for additional points. To kick a field goal, place the paper football on its vertical edge and flick from halfway between goal posts.