



NAME _____

DATE _____

How Many Hands: Racing Donkeys SAINT-SAËNS "Wild Donkeys" from *Carnival of the Animals*

BECOME A COMPOSER



"Wild Donkeys" is one of the 14 short movements in the collection called the *Carnival of the Animals*. All 14 pieces are based on animals and other things like pianists, fossils, and aquariums. Let's put on our composer hats and learn how composers choose the sounds in their pieces!

Describe the music from "Wild Donkeys." What are the **tempo** (how fast or slow), **dynamics** (how loud or quiet), and **pitch** (how high or low)? Does it match what you think wild donkeys would sound like? Why or why not?

The Tortoise



Now, imagine that you are going to write music that sounds like a tortoise. Can you decide which tempo, dynamics, and pitch best match the music of a tortoise? Use the [Classics for Kids Musical Dictionary](#) to look up the musical terms you don't know!

Tempo

What is the speed of a tortoise walking? Very fast, fast, medium, or slow walking speed? Circle your answer.

Presto Allegro Andante Largo

Dynamics

Think about the size of a tortoise. Is it big or small, heavy or light? Do you think a tortoise makes loud stomping sound when it walks, or can you barely hear it move? Circle your answer!

Forte Mezzoforte Piano



Pitch

To mimic a tortoise walking, the music should be played using:

Low sounds, High sounds, or sounds somewhere in the middle?

Mood

How is the tortoise feeling?

Happy Sad Lazy Energetic

What is the tortoise doing? How would you show this through the music?

Saint-Saëns wrote music about a tortoise in the *Carnival of the Animals*. Listen to [this recording](#) to see if you and Saint-Saëns shared some same ideas!