



CLASS ACTIVITY: PUPPET TEMPO RACE (GRADES 1-3)

OVERVIEW

In "Two Puppets," we meet puppets Janet and Manny. In this activity students will make their own puppets, and then use those puppets to participate in a tempo "race."

SPACE CONSIDERATIONS: Students will need a cleared space to move around the room.

MATERIALS: Four signs labeled "presto," "allegro," "andante," and "lento."

Paper bags (1 per student), construction paper, markers, and other arts and crafts materials.

MAKE YOUR OWN PUPPET

Before beginning the activity, have students create their own puppets using a paper bag, and arts and crafts materials to decorate. Encourage students to get creative!



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ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

After students have made their puppets, review the definitions of "presto," "allegro," "andante," and "lento" with the class. For this activity's purposes, we will simplify each term's meaning to:

Presto – very fast

Allegro – fast

Andante – "walking" tempo

Lento – slow

After reviewing, put one of the tempo signs in each of the corners of the room. Have all students start by standing in the middle of the room with their puppets. You will play one of the pieces linked on the next page, and students will move their puppets to the corner of the room that they believe best represents the tempo of the piece. Encourage students to choose the answer they believe is correct, instead of simply following the group. Once students have decided on a corner to stand in, have students discuss why they believe their tempo corner is the correct one. Repeat with as many pieces as desired.



THE CLIBURN

CLIBURN KIDS

PRESTO:

[KHACHATURIAN "Sabre Dance" from *Gayane*](#)

["The Other Side" from *The Greatest Showman* by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul](#)

ALLEGRO:

[Las Plenas \(traditional Puerto Rican folk song\)](#)

[MONTGOMERY *Starburst*](#)

ANDANTE:

["Chan Chan" by Buena Vista Social Club](#)

[PROKOFIEV "Dance of the Knights" from *Romeo and Juliet*](#)

LENTO:

[CHOPIN Piano Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, "Funeral March"](#)

[BACH Concerto for 2 Violins in D minor, BWV 1043: 2nd movement, *Largo ma non tanto*](#)