MUSIC CLASS PLAYLIST

36 Engaging Listening Lessons from Various Musical Styles

By Melody Easter-Clutter

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NATIONAL STANDARDS: RESPOND

- Anchor Statement 11: Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.
- Essential Question: How does music influence imagination and writing?
 How can students respond to music and relate it to their lives?

LEARNING TARGETS AND STUDENT OBJECTIVES

ICAN...

 Use my imagination to create a story based on a piece of classical music.

VOCABULARY TERMS

Imagination

MATERIALS

- Recording of "Adagio for Strings" by Samuel Barber (the London Philharmonic Orchestra recording is recommended)
- Sticky notes and pencils

PROCEDURE

- 1. Give each student a sticky note and a pencil. Tell them that on the count of three, they should find a quiet spot in the room and lie down on the floor. There should be no talking.
- **2.** After all the students are in their spot, give the following directions:
 - **a.** Close your eyes.
 - **b.** Listen to "Adagio for Strings" and let your *imagination* go. Ask yourself, "What do you see, what do you hear, what is happening?"
 - **c.** After the song is done, write down what you saw in your mind.
 - **d.** Bring your sticky note up to the front of the room and post it on the board.
- **3.** Students will come up with many different stories. After they have posted their sticky notes on the front board, read several of the stories aloud to the class.
- **4.** Wrap up the lesson by discussing how when we listen to music, it has the power to bring feelings and stories to life. Encourage them to practice this on their own by lying down and listening to classical music at home, and then allowing music to stir their imaginations to write.
- **5.** As the class ends, play "Adagio for Strings" again while allowing the class to come up to the board and read their peers' stories.

