



# Cozy Classics Homeschool Lesson Plan

## Raddish Lesson Plan Road Map

---

We design these lessons to be adaptable and flexible to your students and your life. You can do A Little Taste in ~45 minutes, or you can use the extension activities and make the projects and activities listed last over several lessons or even weeks. The lessons are meant to be interdisciplinary, covering many subject areas at once. Students of all ages can use these materials, with learners who are pre-writers able to draw or verbally share responses.

If desired, you could extend these lessons into a project-based learning unit of study, where students tackle a real world problem and create solutions. The learning happens in the process of getting to the presentation of the solution, and students often find it more meaningful when they are investigating a topic of their choice.

For a deeper look at the topic, A Big Bite offers extension ideas for learners who are able to read, write, and think on a higher level.

We always love to see your finished projects! You can share them in our Facebook group, [The Raddish Table](#), or email us [hello@raddishkids.com](mailto:hello@raddishkids.com).

**Driving Questions:** What is classical music? What are the elements of an orchestra?

## A Little Taste

### Resource List

#### Background Information (also linked within lesson)

- “Top 10 Classical Music Pieces Kids Should Know”, article from ESME, <https://esme.com/single-mom-showcase/music/top-10-classical-pieces-kids-should-know>
- *Ada’s Violin: The Story of the Recycled Orchestra in Paraguay*, picture book by Susan Hood, <https://bookshop.org/books/ada-s-violin-the-story-of-the-recycled-orchestra-of-paraguay/9781481430951>
- *El Violín de ADA (Ada’s Violin): La Historia de la Orquesta de Instrumentos Reciclados del Paraguay*, picture book in Spanish by Susan Hood, <https://bookshop.org/books/el-violin-de-ada-ada-s-violin-la-historia-de-la-orquesta-de-instrumentos-reciclados-del-paraguay/9781481466578>
- *Ada’s Violin*, video read-aloud <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7E1NUIiRbD8>
- Classics for Kids, interactive site about orchestra, [https://www.classicsforkids.com/music/instruments\\_orchestra.php](https://www.classicsforkids.com/music/instruments_orchestra.php)
- George meets the Orchestra, video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0Jc4sP0BEE>
- 10 Best Pieces of Classical Music for Kids, <https://www.classicfm.com/discover-music/best-classical-music-for-kids/>
- Art, Animals, Fairy Tales & More in Classical Music, <https://www.king.org/art-animals-fairy-tales-more-in-classical-music/>

#### Optional Extensions

- “25 Homemade Musical Instruments That Really Work”, article tutorial from Red Tricycle, <https://redtri.com/homemade-instruments/slide/1>
- How to Make DIY Musical Instruments for Kids!, video from Ryan’s World, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tYlor3r82M>
- “Fantasia - All the classical music used in the Disney film”, article from Classic FM, <https://www.classicfm.com/discover-music/periods-genres/film-tv/fantasia-disney-music/>
- Storyboard Templates With Unique Designs, Creately blog post, <https://creately.com/blog/examples/storyboard-templates-creately/>
- The Best Baryshnikov: Compilation Part 1, video from the best dance, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwS\\_aOwVaU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwS_aOwVaU)
- Swan Lake with Misty Copeland, Gustavo Dudamel, & the LA Phil, video from LA Phil, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRLeTziFsHs>

- Chrome Music Lab, apps from Google, <https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/>
- Composer John Williams, CBS Sunday Morning video segment, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skh9N2UHI Fo>
- Top 10 Unforgettable John Williams Scores, video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2sjQC3DpMDk>
- Classics for Kids, classical music podcast episodes from NPR, <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/404966350/classics-for-kids>
- George Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue, video from Fledermaus I 190, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFHdRkeEnpM>
- *When Marian Sang*, picture book by Pam Munoz Ryan, <https://bookshop.org/books/when-marian-sang-the-true-recital-of-marian-anderson/9780439269674>
- Read Aloud *When Marian Sang*, video read-aloud by Phylcia Jeffreys, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sSvrUEfLqDg>

### Conceptual Knowledge - What Do You Want Them to Know?

1. Classical music is a type of music in Western culture where composers write the music for musicians to perform.
2. Orchestras are composed of different instruments that belong to different instrumental families.

### Key Vocabulary

- Orchestra - a group of musicians who perform classical instrumental music using a combination of string, woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments
- Conductor - the leader of a musical ensemble who directs, through gestures or patterns, how a piece of music should be played
- Composer - a person who writes music, especially as a profession
- Tempo - the speed at which a piece of music should be played

### Cross-Curricular Links

- Fine Arts, Language Arts, Social Science

### Project Idea/Scenario

Students will use musical inspiration from classical music to create a project that corresponds with a musical composition.

### Plan the Process: What Will the Students Do?

Students will learn about the composition of an orchestra and classical music, and use a variety of classical music to create work inspired by the music.

## Warm-up Activity - Activating Background Knowledge

- [Play two different classical pieces from Vivaldi's The Four Seasons](#) (#3 and #10 have good contrast, but you can choose any of the two selections).
  - Have students close their eyes to listen to the first piece, and then to draw while listening to the second piece.
  - Ask:
    - What images come to mind when listening with your eyes closed?
    - How did the music make you feel?
    - What did you draw while listening to the second piece?
    - How did you choose colors or select what to draw?
  - Tell the students the name of the concerto, and see if they can identify the seasons that match the pieces they heard.
- Explain that the focus for the lesson is on looking more closely at classical music, particularly orchestras and the instruments used to create performances of this music.
- Review what knowledge they already have about classical music, composers, and orchestras before beginning.

## Sequence/Procedure

1. [Watch video](#) of a visit to the Sydney Orchestra. Pay attention to the conductor, the orchestra members, and the different types of instruments showcased.
  - Ask:
    - What instruments did you recognize?
    - Have you been somewhere where you saw an orchestra perform?
2. Review the different instruments that are used in the orchestra using the [Explore the Orchestra game](#) from Classic Kids.
  - Ask: What are the features of each instrument family?
  - Complete the instrument family handout, found on page 8 of the lesson plan.
3. Read ([in Spanish](#) or [English](#)) or listen to video read-aloud of the book *Ada's Violin*.
  - Ask:
    - What barriers did Ada and her friends in her community face to playing music?
    - Why do you think that classical music is traditionally considered to be performed and made for a certain elite audience of people?
    - How did Ada and her friends change that?
4. Check out the [map of composers on Classic Kids](#) website.
  - Ask:
    - Who is featured on the map?
    - What parts of the world are not represented?
    - What does this tell you about access to classical music around the world?

5. Listen to some other traditional classical music; browse through [the site Classical King](#) and listen to examples of different categories of classical music.
  - Try to identify the different instruments, and make note if a certain family of instruments is featured more prominently than others.
6. Choose a project, and share the finished project over any of the recipes from Cozy Classics.

### Possible Creations

1. Create an instrument. Use either the tutorial from [Ryan's World](#) or [Red Tricycle](#), or design and build one out of your own imagination. Classify your instrument into the appropriate instrument family. See if you can use it to perform along with a classical music piece of your choice.
2. [Watch one of the segments from Fantasia](#) for inspiration. Create a story to match a classical music piece of your choosing. [Create a storyboard](#) to show the main events of your story. For significant moments where the action shifts in the story, mark the minutes and seconds of the music on your storyboard to show when to introduce each element.
3. Watch videos of [Mikhail Baryshnikov](#) and [Misty Copeland](#) dancing to different pieces of classical music. These are two different ballet dancers from different times in ballet who are incredibly famous for their artistry and skill. Create and perform your own dance to go with a classical music piece of your choice.

### Extensions

1. Play with tempo/music using [Google Chrome Music](#) programs. [Listen to one of the NPR podcast episodes](#) about different pieces of classical music, and imagine that you are brought on to explain your work and how you would want it performed. Talk about your inspiration, and how you would want your piece to be interpreted for the stage.
2. [Watch video segment](#) about John Williams and [listen](#) to some of his most famous compositions for films. His process is to use the video to then inspire and create the music, but flip this and use [George Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue](#) to inspire or create a video. Try to match the music to the events in a day in your own life.
3. [Read](#) or [watch the video read-aloud](#) of *When Marian Sang*. Did she do it all by herself? Who encouraged her and supported her? Consider who in your life has supported you or helped you persevere in difficult times. Write a thank you note to one of these people.

**Driving Questions:** Is coziness and comfort defined the same way around the world?  
What symbol of coziness can be found in many different cultures?

## A Big Bite

### Resources

- “What is the Meaning of Hygge?”, article from The Scandinavia Standard, <https://www.scandinaviastandard.com/what-is-hygge/>
- 11 Ways to do Hygge with Your Family, blog post from A Mother Far From Home, <https://amotherfarfromhome.com/hygge-as-a-family/>
- “Denmark’s Hygge Isn’t the Only Snuggly Tradition in the World”, article from Treehugger, <https://www.treehugger.com/denmarks-hygge-isnt-only-snuggly-tradition-world-4862863>
- *Teatime Around the World*, picture book by Denise Waissbluth, <https://bookshop.org/books/teatime-around-the-world/9781771646017>
- “15 Tea Traditions From Around the World”, article from Mental Floss, <https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/72891/15-tea-traditions-around-world>
- 7 Ways to Drink Tea Around the World, video from Great Big Story, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yq4MEIM620I>
- How Tea is Enjoyed Around the World, video from Food Insider, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZgvO--dGljY>
- Tea Culture of the World, country summaries from Tea Culture of the World, <https://teacultureoftheworld.com/Tea-Culture>
- How To Finger Knit, Episode 80, video tutorial from Fiber <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MsZsUBYU0qU>
- How to Crochet for Absolute Beginners, video tutorial from Bella Coco Crochet, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GcOzdAzmtNM>
- How to Knit: Easy for Beginners, video tutorial from RJ Knits, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p\\_RIUDsNOMk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p_RIUDsNOMk)

### Project Idea/Scenario

Create an experience that evokes coziness and comfort and incorporates hygge ideas.

### Sequence/Procedure

1. If you had to represent the idea of coziness with one thing -- what would you choose?
  - Does the item you selected have a certain season that it is used, or can it be used anytime?
  - Would everyone in your family agree with this item as being a good symbol of coziness?

2. [Read Scandinavia Standard article](#) about the concept of hygge, and [read through other traditions from around the world](#). Discuss:
  - Do you already practice hygge or these concepts in your own life?
  - What other things represent coziness and comfort to you? Are any of these things universal for people everywhere?
  - Does hygge look different during different seasons? Can you practice hygge all year round?
3. Tea is a drink that transcends various cultures and can be found in various iterations around the world. [Read Teatime Around the World](#), and follow it with [the article from Mental Floss](#).
  - Did you know about the varying tea cultures? What surprises you about some of these countries and how they use tea?
  - How does the concept of hygge overlap with the consumption of tea around the world?
4. Watch [one](#) or [both](#) of the videos about tea culture around the world. Fill out the worksheet about tea cultures from different countries, found on page 9 of the lesson plan.
5. Select a project to complete that exemplifies some of the ideas of hygge.

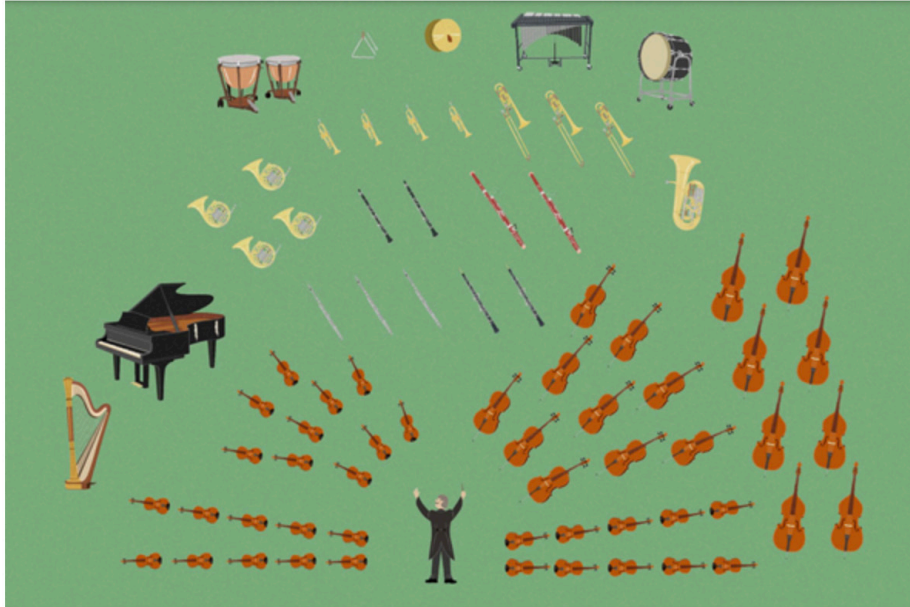
### Possible Creations

1. Recreate a tea service following the tradition of another part of the world. Make sure to include the right kind of tea, the appropriate accessories, and other foods that might be served. Consider what time of day this tea would typically be enjoyed.
2. Create a hygge mini-cafe in your house. Draw and map out the space, and include the colors, materials, and specific furniture that you would need to make the space as cozy as possible. Create a menu that would encourage conversation and maximize relaxation.
3. Crafting is a cozy activity that can be enjoyed alone or with others. Using a YouTube tutorial, teach yourself how to [finger knit](#), [crochet](#), or [knit](#). After learning the basics, write out a script of how you could share this new craft skill with others over Zoom. Digital experiences are typically not part of hygge or coziness, but think through ways to make screen interactions cozier and incorporate that into your online teaching experience.

### Instrument Families

Circle and label the groups of families below!

Identify the Percussion, Woodwind, String and Brass sections. Draw a box around the conductor.



	Names of instruments	How are they played?	What are they made out of?
Woodwind			
Percussion			
String			
Brass			



## Tea Around the World

	Type of tea	Other details about tea service	What are they made out of?
Argentina			
China			
India			
United Kingdom			
Russia			
USA			

If you could visit one place to experience their tea service firsthand, where would you choose to go?