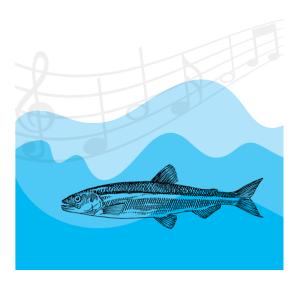


The Nature of Music/ Schubert's Trout

This lesson will teach children about Franz Schubert and his song The Trout - as well as the subsequent Trout Quintet.



We will explore the connection between poetry and song, and then the development into a quintet.

This goes with our "Nature of Music" theme as we talk about ways Schubert's

music reflects the water, fishing, and the movements of the trout.

SQUILT

Let's begin by hopping in our boat. Listen to this music by Claude Debussy, a French Impressionist composer, called "en bateau" (in the boat). What about this music makes it sound like being on a boat?

En Bateau



Die Forelle (The Trout)

In a clear little brook, There darted, about in happy haste, The moody trout Dashing everywhere like an arrow. I stood on the bank And watched, in sweet peace, The fish's bath In the clear little brook.

A fisherman with his gear Came to stand on the bank And watched with cold blood As the little fish weaved here and there. But as long as the water remains clear, I thought, no worry, He'll never catch the trout With his hook. But finally, for the thief, Time seemed to pass too slowly. He made the little brook murky, And before I thought it could be, So his line twitched. There thrashed the fish, And I, with raging blood, Gazed on the betrayed one.

Franz Schubert composed a song (leidd) in German to go along with this poem (1817). It is the tale of a fisherman ensnaring a wriggling trout to an alarmed onlooker's distress.

Listen!



Born and died in Vienna, Austria. Vienna was the center of the Classical music world at this time!



He was one of the last great composers of the Classical Era, and one of the first great composers of the **Romantic Era**.

As a boy, the young Franz learned violin, piano, organ, singing, and harmony. At age 10 he got into music school - they are now The Vienna Boys' Choir!

By the age of 16 he was composing music, including his first symphony/ his 8th symphony is called "The **Unfinished"** because it only has two movements.

He is the most well known for his German songs (Lieder) - also called ART SONGS



He also wrote many of string quartets, quintets, and symphonies, piano sonatas and duets.

The amazing thing about Schubert was his skill in combining **MELODY** and **piano accompaniment.**

One of his most famous songs is *Gretchen and the Spinning Wheel* - a setting of a poem by **Goëthe.**

It takes good musicians who can also be wonderful actors to perform Schubert's Lieder.

Schubert was the first composer to come up with the idea of writing **song cycles.** (Think of the songs like being chapters in a book)

The Trout Quinter

Quintet in A major for Piano and Strings, D.667, *Trout*

Written in **1819** while Schubert (22 at the time) was on vacation - Sylvester Paumgartner, a wealthy patron and amateur cellist - asked Schubert to write a quintet and somehow incorporate his song "The Trout" into it.

"The summer was filled with outings, music parties, and impromptu concerts, and Schubert was buoyant. The days were filled with hikes and picnics, the evenings with chamber music. His sunny, out-of-doors leisure is audible throughout the work."

A string quintet is for FIVE instruments - piano, cello, double bass, violin, and cello.



We are listening to the **fourth movement**, which is a **theme and variations** - Andantino/Allegretto

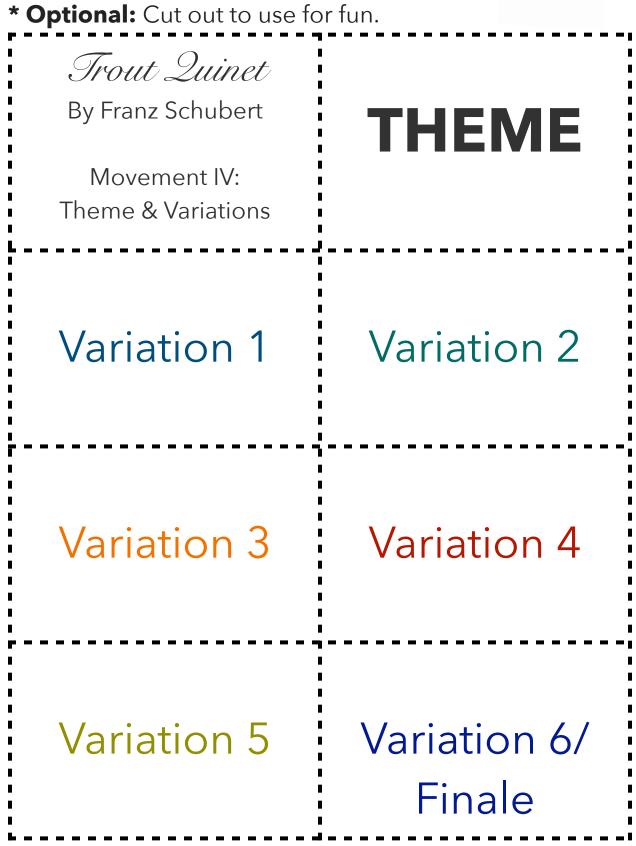


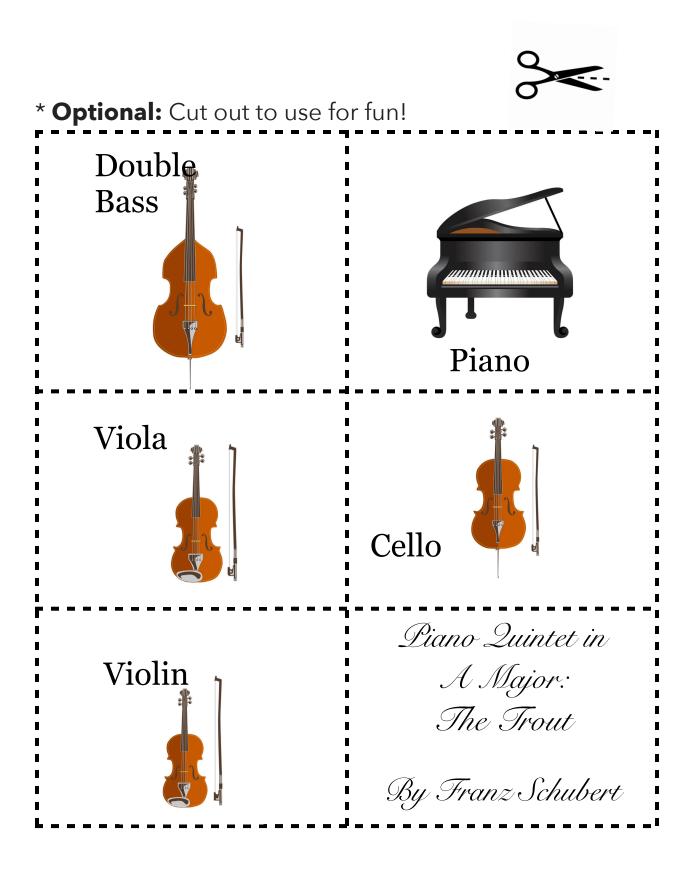
These variations concentrate on **melodic decoration** and **changes of mood**.



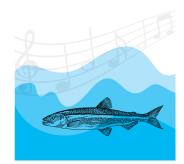
Schubert ponders on the sad fate of a trout on the end of an angler's line, by Andrew Howat







THEME



Variation 1











Variation 4







Variation 6/Finale



Draw What You Hear



Listening Links

<u>Norwegian Chamber Orchestra</u> <u>Schubert Ensemble</u>

<u>SQUILT created video with theme &</u> <u>variation guides</u>



Recommended Reading:

 Famous Children: Franz Schubert
<u>A Little Schubert</u>
<u>Schubert: The Story of the Boy Who Wrote</u> <u>Beautiful Songs</u> (free online!)

Recommended Watching/

Listening:

Franz Schubert (5 Minute Mozart)
10 Facts about Franz Schubert
Classics for Kids: Take Me To Your Leider
Classics for Kids: About Franz Schubert

SQUIZ: The Trout

- 1. Franz Schubert was from ______.
 - a. Canada
 - b. Austria
 - c. Germany
 - d. America
- 2. The Trout was a ______.
 - a. Song
 - b. Violin solo
 - c. Trumpet Concerto
 - d. Cello duet
- 3. What is the name of Schubert's 8th Symphony?
 - a. The Grand Symphony b. The Trout c. The Tempest
 - d. The Unfinished
- 4. Lieder is another word for ART SONG.
 - a. True
 - b. False
- 5. Schubert had a gift for ______.
 - a. Writing melodies
 - b. Writing novels
 - c. singing
 - d. fishing

- 6. A QUINTET has six players.
 - a. True
 - b. False

7. The form of Movement IV of the Trout Quintet is _____

- a. Sonata Allegro
- b. Verse/Refrain
- c. Theme & Variations
- d. Rondo
- 8. Schubert was the first to come up with the idea of writing _____.
 - a. Novels
 - b. String Quintets
 - c. symphonies
 - d. Song cycles

9. Schubert was composing in the _____ era of music.

- a. Classical b. Romantic
- c. Classical & Romantic
- d. Baroque
- 10. How many variations did we hear today?
 - a. 5
 - b. 6
 - c. 7
 - d. 8

SQUIZ Answers:

1. b	6. b
2. a	7. c
3. d	8. d
4. a	9. c
5. a	10. b