

The Magic Flute

Teacher's Guide

Ages: 5 to 12

Running time: 7:41

In this animated film without words, a boy is drawn by the sound of wind passing through a flute. He begins to play, and wonderful things happen. He lends the flute to other children, and the magic continues. A jealous boy grabs the flute, which then elicits fear with its sounds. In the hands of a little girl, enchantment takes over once again. **The Magic Flute** is a fable showing that things can be malignant or benign depending on how they are used--with good or evil intent.

Pre-Viewing

Find out which members of the group play the flute, or enjoy the music it produces.

Post-Viewing

Language Arts

Developing oral and written communication.

- What is the sound that first drew the child to the flute? Describe it and how it is produced.
- Describe all the magical happenings created by the flute's music.
- If you had a magic flute, what do you hope it would cause to appear? Pair off and share your stories.
- Choose a well-known musical instrument. Imagine the types of things it might make appear if it had magical power, then write a short composition on the subject.
- Describe the fantastical voyage on which the flute takes the boy and girl.
- Describe the boy's reaction to the evil spells the flute produces.
- List the ways in which we care for objects for which we have a particular fondness.

Music

Categorizing musical instruments by the ways they make music.

- To what family of instruments does the flute belong? Name other instruments that belong to this same family. What other families of instruments can you name?

Using simple instruments.

- Play a short piece of music on the recorder. Invite someone else to practice it, and perform the piece as a duet.

Recognizing treble and bass notes.

- Distinguish between notes of the treble and bass clefs in a piece of music played in class.

Visual Arts

Depicting familiar people and objects.

- Draw yourself playing a magic flute. Imagine and draw a magical event created by the flute.
- Draw a wind instrument orchestra.
- Using collage, depict yourself playing music in front of an audience.

Guidance: Interpersonal Relationships

Demonstrating that expressing emotions communicates messages to others.

- Describe the boy's feelings at the start of the film.
- Discuss why the flute's powers are transformed from good to evil when the jealous boy grabs it.
- Discuss the reasons its powers are transformed once again when the little girl takes the flute back.
- Find a positive behaviour that the jealous boy could have used instead of grabbing the flute.