

# Engagement Activities for "Emma and Debussy"

## 1. Musical Mood Movement

- Play a short clip from Debussy's "Children's Corner" and have students express the mood through movement. Ask them to identify if the music feels happy, sad, or playful, and encourage them to show this through their gestures and movements.

## 2. Picture Connection

- Display a picture of Debussy and one of Emma. Have students discuss in pairs what they think the relationship could be and why they might look similar. Then, share their thoughts with the class to explore connections between music and personal experiences.

## 3. Soundtrack of a Scene

- Describe a scene from the story, such as Emma watching a snowstorm. Ask students to imagine how Debussy's music would enhance that scene. Students can share what instruments or sounds they envision playing in the background and how it would change the mood of the scene.

## 4. Emotion Charades

- Write down different emotions that can be inferred from the pieces in "Children's Corner" (e.g., joy, sadness, nostalgia). Have students draw one emotion from a hat and act it out without using words while others guess the emotion and relate it to the music piece.

## 5. Debussy's Doodle

- Provide students with paper and colored pencils. Play a piece from "Children's Corner" and ask students to doodle while listening. Afterward, they can share how their doodles relate to the music and what feelings or images the music evoked.

# Would You Rather Questions

## 1. Would you rather be a famous composer like Debussy or a famous dancer who performs to his music?

- Discuss why they chose either option and how it would feel to create or perform music.

## 2. Would you rather listen to classical music in a grand concert hall or in a cozy music shop filled with vintage instruments?

- Encourage students to explain their reasoning and how it would affect their experience of the music.

## 3. Would you rather have a pet elephant like Jimbo or a magical doll that comes to life when you play music?

- Prompt students to think about the stories and emotions tied to each choice and justify their selection.

## Deep Question

**How does music shape our emotions and experiences, and can it transport us to different times and places?**

This question encourages students to reflect on their personal experiences with music and consider the deeper impact it has on their lives.

## Applied Scenario-Based Question

**Imagine you are Emma, and you just heard Debussy's "The Little Shepherd." What feelings do you think this music would evoke in you, and how would you express those feelings?**

This scenario invites students to apply their understanding of music's emotional power in a personal context.

## Thought Experiment

**If you could travel back in time to meet Debussy while he was composing "Children's Corner," what questions would you ask him about his music and inspirations?**

This experiment encourages students to think critically about the creative process and the historical context of music.

## Riddles

**1. What has keys that open no locks, yet can create beautiful music?**

(Answer: A piano)

**2. I can be played, but I'm not a toy; I can express feelings, but I have no voice. What am I?**

(Answer: Music)

**3. I am a tale of a doll and a shepherd boy, played by fingers on keys, bringing joy. What am I?**

(Answer: A piece of music from "Children's Corner")