

# 5 E's Lesson Plan: Mozart's The Magic Flute

**Grade Level: 5th Grade**

**Subject: Music / Performing Arts**

**Lesson Title: Discovering Mozart's The Magic Flute**

**Lesson Duration: 1-2 class periods (60-90 minutes each)**

## 1. ENGAGE

### Objective:

Students will express their prior knowledge and curiosity about opera and Mozart's contributions to music.

### Activity:

- **Introduction to Opera:**
  - The teacher plays a brief clip of a famous aria from "The Magic Flute," such as "Der Hölle Rache" or "Ein Mädchen oder Weibchen."
  - After the clip, ask students to share their thoughts:
  - What emotions did the music evoke?
  - What do you think the story might be about?
  - Have you heard of Mozart before? What do you know about him?

### Teaching Strategies:

- Facilitate a class discussion to uncover students' existing knowledge and ideas about opera and classical music.
- Write students' responses on the board to visualize their thoughts.
- Post learning outcomes on the board, such as:
  - Understand the basic plot of "The Magic Flute."
  - Identify key characters and musical elements.

## 2. EXPLORE

### Objective:

Students will investigate the characters and themes of "The Magic Flute" through collaborative group activities.

### Activity:

- **Character and Theme Exploration:**
  - Divide the class into small groups and assign each group a character from the opera (e.g., Tamino, Pamina, Papageno, Sarastro, Queen of the Night).
  - Each group uses tablets or books to research their character:
  - Character's role in the story
  - Key traits and motivations
  - Notable musical pieces associated with them
- **Creative Expression:**
  - Groups create a poster depicting their character, including:
  - Images or drawings
  - Key quotes or musical excerpts
  - Themes associated with their character

### Teaching Strategies:

- Circulate among the groups, encouraging discussion and guiding research.
- Provide scaffolding questions to help students think critically about their character's significance.

## 3. EXPLAIN

### Objective:

Students will articulate their understanding of the plot, characters, and themes of "The Magic Flute."

### Activity:

- **Group Presentations:**
  - Each group presents their poster to the class, explaining their character and its importance in the opera.
  - Use guiding questions to prompt discussion:

- How does your character contribute to the overall story?
- What themes are represented through your character?

### **Teaching Strategies:**

- After each presentation, encourage classmates to ask questions.
- Provide a brief overview of the opera's main plot and themes, emphasizing connections made in student presentations.

## **4. ELABORATE**

### **Objective:**

Students will apply their knowledge by creating a short performance or skit related to "The Magic Flute."

### **Activity:**

- **Skit Creation:**
  - In their groups, students create a short skit that includes their character, incorporating music, dialogue, or movement that reflects the character's role in the opera.
  - Groups can use the themes discussed earlier to frame their skit (e.g., love, conflict, wisdom).
- **Rehearse and Perform:**
  - Allow time for rehearsal, then have each group perform their skit for the class.

### **Teaching Strategies:**

- Encourage students to use musical elements in their performance, such as singing excerpts or using simple instruments.
- Provide constructive feedback after each performance, focusing on creativity and understanding of the material.

## **5. EVALUATE**

### **Objective:**

Students will assess their understanding of "The Magic Flute" through reflection and peer assessment.

### **Activity:**

- **Reflection Journals:**

- Students write a short reflection in their journals addressing:
  - What did you learn about Mozart and "The Magic Flute"?
  - What was your favorite part of the lesson and why?
  - How did working in a group help your understanding?
- **Peer Assessment:**
  - After the performances, students fill out a peer assessment rubric that evaluates their group members on collaboration, creativity, and understanding of the material.

### **Teaching Strategies:**

- Use guiding questions to deepen reflections and encourage self-assessment.
- Review the peer assessments and provide feedback to students on their group dynamics and individual contributions.

### **Materials Needed:**

- Audio clips of "The Magic Flute"
- Research materials (books, tablets)
- Poster board and art supplies
- Reflection journals
- Peer assessment rubrics

### **Standards Alignment:**

- Music Standards: Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
- Language Arts Standards: Engaging effectively in a range of collaborative discussions.
- Social Studies Standards: Understanding the historical and cultural contexts of significant artworks.

This lesson plan provides a comprehensive approach to teaching 5th-grade students about Mozart's "The Magic Flute," engaging them through exploration, explanation, elaboration, and evaluation.