

# PETER AND THE WOLF IN HOLLYWOOD

## STUDY GUIDE

This Study Guide is based on

### PETER AND THE WOLF IN HOLLYWOOD

A New Musical Storybook Narrated by Alice Cooper – Based on Prokofiev’s children’s classic *Peter and the Wolf*  
Created by Giants Are Small and Deutsche Grammophon / Universal Music Group

Two complimentary apps are available separately on the App Store. The audio album is available on all major music platforms.

#### PETER AND THE WOLF IN HOLLYWOOD – DELUXE for iPad

Available Languages:  
English Narrator - Alice Cooper  
German - Campino (available as an in-app purchase in English  
language speaking countries)

- A musical storybook app where users can swipe or tap their way through a book-like experience of videos and animation.
- Over 48 minutes of Classical music
- 8 Interactive Games
- The iPad app features a comprehensive music learning section to discover Classical composers and to listen to some of the most important recordings ever made of their work.
- Bonus section with a behind-the-scenes video of how the app was made.
- Stream to Television for Presentations using Apple TV

#### PETER AND THE WOLF IN HOLLYWOOD– MOVIEBOOK for iPhone

Available Languages:  
English Narrator - Alice Cooper

- A musical storybook app where users can swipe or tap their way through a book-like experience of videos and animation.
- Over 48 minutes of Classical music
- An Interactive section where kids can press on icons and hear what instruments are connected to which characters.
- Bonus section with a behind-the-scenes video of how the app was made.
- Stream to Television for Presentations using Apple TV

### More About The Product

Set in modern-day Los Angeles, *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* begins with the wolf’s escape from the local zoo. To capture the wolf, Peter must build a robot, maneuver his way through a thrilling helicopter chase, and manage some hilarious encounters with several adorably quirky animals. Will he be able to complete the mission?

All the artwork was handmade in Brooklyn by a dedicated team of artists and craftspeople. Over 18 months of designing and building using cardboard, paint and magic markers (among other materials!) went into creating our miniature world of Hollywood. Then everything was photographed and animated to create every frame of video in the moviebook.

Hear an original recording of important, must-listen classical music by one of the world’s most acclaimed youth philharmonic orchestras: the National Youth Orchestra of Germany, conducted by Alexander Shelley. Composers featured include: Prokofiev, Wagner, Schumann, Mahler, Puccini, Smetana, Elgar, Mussorgsky, Grieg, Dukas, Satie, and Zemlinsky.

## Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood: Bringing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills to Life in Your Classrooms

Preparing our students to participate in today's global community is an educational priority, and the arts can play a key role in challenging students to go beyond the acquisition of knowledge to the production of 21st Century solutions, innovations, products, and relationships. *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* is a perfect medium to involve students in this kind of deep, creative, and collaborative thinking! Below, you will find suggested extension and enrichment activities, organized around the 4Cs of 21st Century Learning: Critical Thinking, Communication, Collaboration, and Creativity\*. These activities can be adapted for multiple grade levels and teacher needs, and are meant to inspire both musical and cross-curricular explorations at school and at home. Have fun! Imagine! Engage! And if you create your own classroom activities and would like them to be considered for our list, email them to [education@giantssmall.com](mailto:education@giantssmall.com).

\* The 4Cs are researched and promoted by many educational organizations, including the [National Education Association](#), [United States Department of Education](#), the [Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning](#), and the [National Association for Music Educators](#).

### Creativity

- Imagine you are Peter and write a short story about how you would successfully trick and trap the wolf.
- All of the images in *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* are created "by hand," meaning that they are not made by computers. Study the look and feel of the artwork and watch the segment on *The Making of Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood*. Then, create your own version of a scene in *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood*. This can be a drawing, painting, collage, 3-dimensional sculpture, or diorama.
- Often, viewers feel sorry that the Duck has to live forever in the belly of the Wolf. Imagine and write an alternate ending where the Duck is free! (Or, if you like him in the belly, write his adventure from within!)
- Choose a musical selection from *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood*, and listen to it without viewing the app. As you listen (you may wish to listen several times), sketch images or take notes about things that the music makes you think or feel. Look over your sketches and notes and choose an idea to expand into a finished work of art (drawing, collage, painting, sculpting, etc.). Be prepared to explain how your creation connects to the music.
- Sometimes music and stories are communicated through songs with lyrics. While *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* separates the words of the story from the music, the two could be combined. Create lyrics to tell a part of the story or the entire plot. You may use a well known tune (such as a children's song, popular song, or holiday song) or use one of the melodies from the music in the app.
- A great way to interact with music is to dance to it! Let younger students spontaneously dance to the music, and older students choreograph short excerpts of the music from *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood*. An advanced project may also research and watch excerpts from some of Prokofiev's ballets, i.e. *Cinderella* or *Romeo and Juliet*.

## Critical Thinking

- Each character in the original musical work of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* has its own instrument and musical theme. First, make sure to understand what a musical theme is, then, try to figure them out. You may also choose to research these themes (they are easily found on the Internet) and then listen for them throughout the story.
- Listen to a selection of music included in *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* BEFORE viewing the app. Write or discuss your response to the music alone. How did it make you feel? What did you see or imagine was happening? Then, engage in the music through the multimedia application. Write or discuss how your experience with the music changed. This activity could also be applied to films like Walt Disney's *Fantasia*.
- This story does not directly tell us why Peter has come to live with his grandfather in Hollywood. What clues from the music, visuals, and story can you find that help you to understand/infer what might have happened?
- Prokofiev visited a children's theatre in Moscow, Russia in 1936. He was so inspired by what he saw there that he wanted to write a piece that would help introduce classical music to children. He was commissioned to create this work and was able to write the entire original story and music in just four days! This was the first composition of its kind written especially for young people. A few other works have been used repeatedly with younger audiences. You may wish to follow your experience with *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* by exploring and comparing these great works. They include:
  - *Carnival of the Animals*, composed by Camille Saint-Saëns (1886) with text later added by Ogden Nash (1949)
  - *Babar the Elephant*, composed by Francis Poulenc (1940) with text originally written by Jean de Brunhoff (1931)
  - *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, composed by Benjamin Britten (1946) with text originally written by Eric Crozier
  - *Mother Goose (Ma mère l'Oye)*, composed by Maurice Ravel (1910). The original was composed as a piano duet and was later orchestrated (1911). There is no text for this work, but the music tells the story of five fairy tales.

## Communication

- *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* uses both words and music to tell a story. Choose a scene from the app and think about how the music helps to convey the meaning or feelings of the words in the scene in ways that the words alone cannot. Take notes and explain this to your friends. There are no wrong answers! Be sure to listen for how the instruments, tempo, and chords or sounds play a role in communicating the mood and events of the story. Take turns listening to each other's scenes and exploring the way the music brings each scene to life!
- Each character in the original musical work of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* has its own instrument and musical theme. Decide which character you want to be, choose a passage of music for your character, and practice "acting out" or pantomiming the movements of your character to the music you selected. This may be performed in small groups or individually for the class.
- The music in the story of *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* continues to tell the story--to communicate--without words. Choose any classical composition (preferably one *not* included in the app), without lyrics, and listen to it in a quiet place, with your eyes closed. When it is over, journal about what you think the story is behind the music. How does it make you feel? Do you picture any characters or actions? Why do you think that the music is influencing your thoughts in these ways?
- Hearing a piece of music more than one time can open our ears to hearing new things and deepen our understanding and appreciation of a work. Choose a selection from *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* and listen to it several times. Keep a log of the things that you notice with each listening, or how your impressions or opinions of the piece change as you get to know it better.

## Collaboration

- It takes the collaboration of many people to create an app like *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood*. In a small group, imagine that you have been hired to create a similar app. Brainstorm the types of careers that you think would have to be involved. Stretch your thinking beyond the creative artists. Choose the career that best suits each member of your group and have each person research their career and share what they learned.
- Collaborate to create a children's game using the themes of *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood*. Together, decide the goal of the game and the rules. Design and create the board, the pieces, and the players.
- Construct your own robot. Have students bring in recycled materials (i.e. cans, springs, toilet paper rolls) and work in groups to create 3-dimensional robots, as featured in *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood*.
- Create your own multi-media movie. In a group, script a short story with a beginning, middle, and end, or choose a well known story as your plot. Decide as a group how you want to tell your story through images, dialog, and music. You may use a stop animation app, digital photography, or live cinematography. As you work together, think about how the music, the images, and the story all work together.
- Pretend that your team has been tasked with marketing *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* to students in your grade. Brainstorm some strategies that advertisements in commercials and magazines use to boost sales and audiences. Create a poster that would both communicate information about the story and music and entice students to want to watch and listen.

## Here's what educators are saying about "Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood"



**Brian Scott**

Music Educator, East Lycoming School District, Hughesville, Pennsylvania

*"As a music teacher, one of the most difficult tasks is making classical music relevant to young listeners. Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood makes this task not only easy, but FUN! The app is a necessary resource for teachers committed to engaging students in active, meaningful listening experiences... BRAVO!"*

Brian Scott graduated in 2011 with a BA in Music and Pennsylvania Teaching Certification from Lycoming College. Currently, Brian is the elementary/general music teacher for the East Lycoming School District in Hughesville, PA teaching grades kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> and directing the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade chorus. Additionally, Brian is the Choir Director for the Hughesville United Methodist Church. Brian lives in South Williamsport, PA with his wife and musical partner, Sara, and beagle, Bentley.



**Joel Ryder**

Art Educator, Warrior Run High School, Turbotville, Pennsylvania

*"Using technology platforms that are familiar to the students (apps) allows for the use of traditional techniques such as drawing, painting and sculpture in a new and exciting format. Currently, my Studio Art III students will be choosing one of The Brothers Grim fairy tales to create an animated version of the story, pairing technology and handmade artwork. Our focus will be to build the scenes and the objects in the scenes and use photography and lighting skills to create an aesthetic look similar to the imagery from the Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood. Student roles will include set design, character design, lighting and photography, video production, and voice actors."*

Joel Ryder graduated from Mansfield University in 2004 with a B.S.E. in Art Education. He started his career teaching traditional darkroom photography and computer art and is also a potter by trade. When Joel took a job as a high school art teacher, he found he was teaching more traditional mediums. Joel now regularly blends the traditional with his knowledge of technology into the classroom to offer skills that will also serve students for a future in the digital creative arts.

## The Author of this Study Guide



**Bernadette Boerckel** is the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the Warrior Run School District in north-central Pennsylvania. She holds degrees in education from Lycoming College and Wilkes University; her Supervisory Certification from Bucknell University; and is currently working on her doctorate in Educational Leadership through Immaculata University. An avid promoter of the arts in education and in life, she has performed in musicals since she was a child and sings professionally throughout the year in concert halls, auditoriums, and churches. Her recordings of music by Irving Berlin, George M. Cohan, Louis Hirsch, and Joe Jordan with Rick Benjamin's Paragon Ragtime Orchestra are available through New World Records and wherever music is sold.

## About

*Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* was created and produced by critically acclaimed production company Giants Are Small and the world's foremost classical record label Deutsche Grammophon. Co-directed by Director/Designer/Illustrator Doug Fitch and Producer/Filmmaker Edouard Getaz. Original recording by one of the best youth philharmonic orchestras in the world: the National Youth Orchestra of Germany, Conducted by Alexander Shelley. Narrated by rock icon Alice Cooper.

Collaborating with top orchestras and exceptional talent, Giants Are Small is known for its extraordinary range of genre-bending productions, which capitalize on their signature fusion of theatre, live filmmaking, puppetry, music and visual art.

## Additional online resources

Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood:

Official website:

[www.peterandthewolfinhollywood.com](http://www.peterandthewolfinhollywood.com)

YouTube channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC07S6RUpBn5cQtXQgKFm\\_Xw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC07S6RUpBn5cQtXQgKFm_Xw)

Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/PeterWolfHollywood](http://www.facebook.com/PeterWolfHollywood)

Giants Are Small:

Official website:

[www.giantsaresmall.com](http://www.giantsaresmall.com)

Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/giantsaresmall](http://www.facebook.com/giantsaresmall)

Deutsche Grammophon:

Official website:

<http://www.deutschegrammophon.com/us>

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/deutschegrammophon>

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