

HOW GREAT TURTLE REBUILT THE WORLD

THIS CONCERT IS A JEUNESSES MUSICALES OF CANADA AND  CO-PRODUCTION.

STUDY BOOKLET



THE STORY

OF GREAT TURTLE

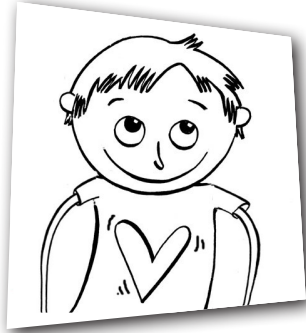
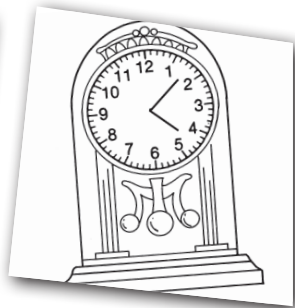
The planet isn't doing so well. In order to find a solution, the sun and the moon get together and decide to send a terrible storm down onto the Earth, and to rebuild everything, starting from scratch. But one question remains: who should be given the task of rebuilding the world?

A flood takes place and Great Turtle wakes up alone on a tiny island. The Totem Tree that sits on the island tells Great Turtle that he has been chosen to rebuild the world. Great Turtle then gets to work, and from his efforts not only does life appear but music as well. Will he succeed in creating a world better than the previous one?



AMERINDIAN INSPIRATION

Everywhere around the planet, people have always felt the need to explain the origin of the world and of life through stories and legends. Close to home, the native people of North America felt this same need. The story of *How Great Turtle Rebuilt the World* is directly inspired by legends from various indigenous cultures, such as the Amerindian legend of *Tuwaqachi*. The concert also features a drum from the Canadian North. The rich Amerindian culture is an obvious source of inspiration.



RHYTHM

Percussion comes in very handy when you want to keep rhythm.

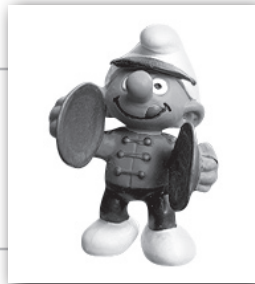
Did you know that rhythm is all around you? Listen to the rhythm of your heartbeat, a ticking clock, a dripping faucet, your baby brother's rattle, your footsteps when you walk down the street... All of this is rhythm.

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS

WITH PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS, THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO GO ABOUT PRODUCING SOUNDS AND RHYTHMS:



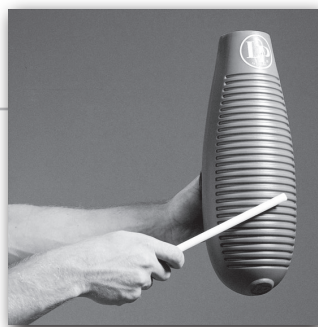
There are instruments that you strike, either with your hands or with sticks. For example, you strike certain drums with your hands but you hit the **marimba** with mallets.



There are instruments that you bang together, like two crash **cymbals** that must be struck against each other.



There are instruments that you shake. For example, **maracas** are hollow pieces of wood that are shaken in order to move around little seeds hidden inside. They work the same way a baby's rattle works.



There are instruments that you scratch or rub. When you see the show, you'll discover the **guiro**, a wooden instrument with a rippled or notched surface. To play the guiro, you need to scrape the surface with a wooden stick.





THE INSTRUMENTS YOU WILL HEAR DURING THE CONCERT!

INSTRUMENTS OF A THOUSAND FACES

During the concert, you will hear over thirty different percussion instruments.

That's a lot, isn't it? In fact, percussion instruments are part of a large family that includes hundreds of different instruments.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE INSTRUMENTS

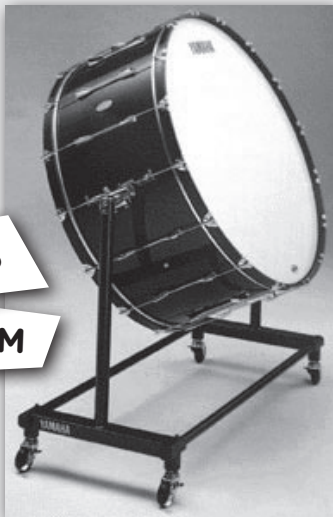
YOU WILL HEAR DURING THE CONCERT.



THE HANG

A **hang** is used to represent the story's hero, **Great Turtle**. The hang is a metal instrument that is played by striking it with the hands, fingers, or mallets. Listen carefully! It has a very surprising sound!

Like all self-respecting turtles, our hero likes to poke his head out of his shell! A **maraca** represents our Great Turtle's head.



THE BASS
DRUM

The **Totem Tree** is made up of many different elements. Part of the tree includes a metal structure from which hang a variety of instruments, and another part of it includes a **bass drum**. The bass drum is a large drum that is usually played using a mallet. In the show, the musicians will also play the bass drum by brushing it with their fingers.



THE BODHRÁN

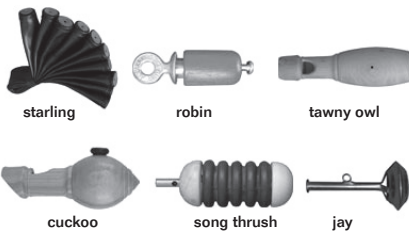
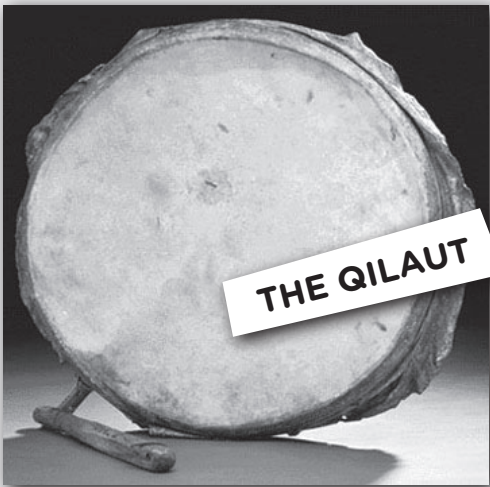


Two frame drums are used to represent the **sun** and the **moon**. Frame drums are made out of animal hide stretched over a round frame. This kind of drum is found in many countries around the world, where it has been given various names.

At first sight, the drums representing the sun and moon may look identical. However, they are two different instruments.

The **bodhrán** (the sun) is an instrument used to accompany traditional dances in Ireland, in Europe. In the past, this drum was made out of goatskin; today synthetic materials are used instead. As for the **qilaut** (the moon), it is a traditional drum used by the Inuit, the people who live in the Canadian far north. The qilaut is made from caribou hide or synthetic material.

THE QILAUT



The **thunder sheet** is a large sheet of metal that must be shaken to produce sound. This instrument can very effectively imitate the sound of thunder.

The **ocean drum** is a drum filled with thousands of tiny lead pellets and is used to reproduce the sound of waves in the sea.

The **birdcall** is a small instrument that imitates birdsong. It comes in a variety of shapes and can imitate the song of a robin, an owl, a duck, and many more birds!



During the concert, keep your eyes wide open and listen

carefully! You'll be surprised to find that music can come

from the most unexpected things: flower pots, wooden

sticks, the human body, and even... garbage!





DO IT YOURSELF CRAFTS

MAKE YOUR OWN *TAMBALLOON*

MATERIALS:

- A small plastic container, like the kind that holds “maple butter”
- Poster paint and paintbrushes
- A few dried chickpeas
- A rubber balloon, not inflated
- Scissors
- An elastic

DIRECTIONS:

- Use the poster paint to decorate the plastic container.
- Once the paint dries, put the chickpeas in the container.
- Using the scissors, cut off the narrowest part of the balloon and throw it away. Now stretch the remaining part of the balloon so that it completely covers the container’s opening. Hold the balloon in place with the elastic. Be sure to ask someone for help if you need to.

USE:

Your *tamballoon* is now ready to use. You can pinch, tap, or rub the “skin” with your fingers.

You can also shake it so that the chickpeas make a sound when they hit the sides.

Try to combine different playing techniques and have fun!



WALKING IN RHYTHM

Get together with your friends, take a small drum, and decide who will play it. Together, decide on the rules that will guide how you move about. For example, 2 beats on the drum = everyone walks, 4 quick beats = everyone runs, 1 sharp beat = everyone stands still. Make your way around the room according to the beats you hear.

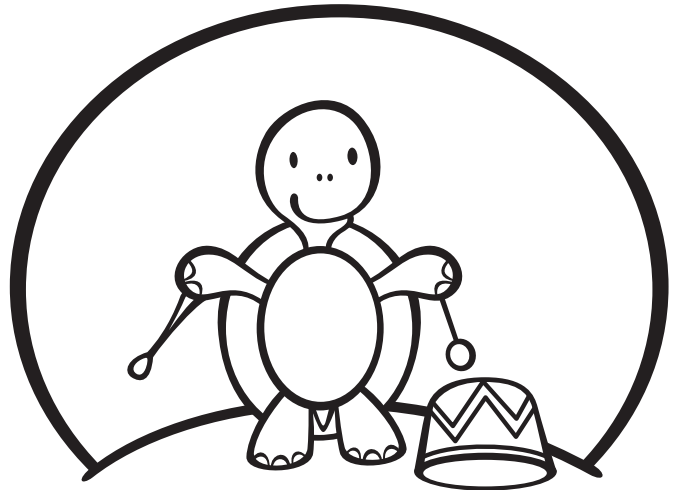
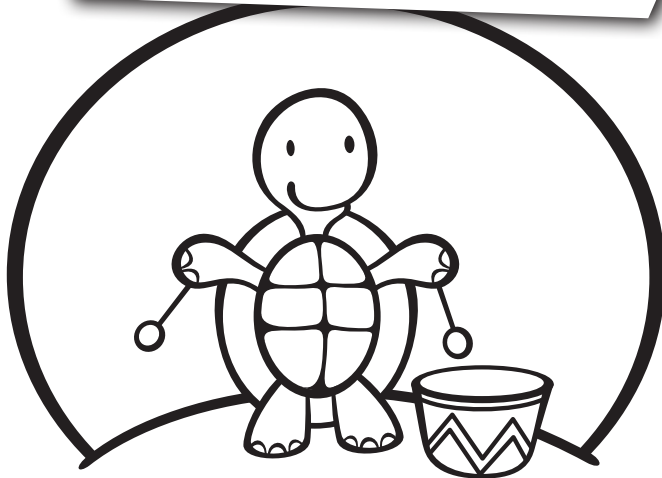


OBSERVATION GAME

THESE TWO DRAWINGS APPEAR TO BE IDENTICAL.

HOWEVER, THERE ARE 5 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THEM.

IT'S UP TO YOU TO FIND THEM.



SILENT CHALLENGE



When you attend a concert, you must remain silent. The story may make you laugh, or the musicians may ask you to make certain sounds, but for the rest of the time, silence is required so that the artists can concentrate and put on a good show for you.

How long can you and your classmates stay completely silent, without laughing? Try to do it together several times, trying to beat the previous record each time.

In the room in which you find yourself, look for the following objects:

- An object that produces sounds when you strike it.
- An object that can be used as a drumstick.
- An object that produces sounds when you shake it.
- Two identical objects that you can bang against each other.
- An object that produces sounds when you scratch it with a stick.

Show your friends what you have found!



OTHER SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

SEEK

AND

FIND



A RHYTHMIC TALE

(GROUP PROJECT)

STEP 1: PICK A TALE OR STORY OF YOUR CHOICE.

Ideally, the story must have a large number of characters.

STEP 2: LET EACH OF THE PARTICIPANTS PICK A CHARACTER TO PORTRAY.

STEP 3: WORK TOGETHER TO ASSOCIATE EACH OF THE CHARACTERS WITH A DIFFERENT PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT.

For example, a very loud drumbeat could be used to represent a wolf, and the sound of the triangle could be used for a little bird. You can also choose to use percussion to represent other recurring parts of the story, like the wind or magic.

STEP 4: THE TEACHER READS THE STORY.

Students must play their instruments each time the characters they represent are mentioned.

- ✦ If you don't have a sufficient number of percussion instruments, make some. You can also use your body, your *tamballoons*, or objects that you have at hand. Vary the types of instruments used (instruments that are struck, shaken, banged together, or scratched), as well as the rhythms.
- ✦ Play the game over again, changing the story and the instruments.

OTHER SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

SHAKE-SHAKE!



Find some empty jars or containers of various sizes (medicine bottles are ideal, since they are small and are less likely to come open). Fill them with different things, like rice, sand, stones, or marbles. Be careful not to make them too full, and then close them up. Put on a CD of some lively music and “shake-shake” your instruments to the rhythm of the music!



LET'S TALK ABOUT THE CONCERT

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS TO ASK THE CHILDREN

- Did you enjoy attending a concert? What was your favourite part?
- Of all the instruments that you heard, which one was your favourite and why?
- Did certain instruments surprise you? Which ones?
- Which of the instruments do you think is the most difficult to play? The easiest?
- During the concert, you heard instruments that imitated real sounds, like thunder, the waves of the ocean, or birdsong. If you could build an instrument of this type, what sounds would it imitate?
- If you had been in the Great Turtle's place, would you have rebuilt things differently? Would you have created new species of plants or animals? If yes, describe to your friends what all of these things would have looked like.

Take a drum and strike its skin with various drumsticks, one after another. Try using metal spoons, wooden spoons, chopsticks, or pipe cleaners. Notice how the sound of your drum changes depending on the drumstick you use!

DIFFERENT STICKS,

DIFFERENT SOUNDS



A FEW



SUGGESTIONS

WEBSITE

Fun with rhythm (play online or download)

- www.juliesamuse.ca/jeux.php

READING

For the very young

- TIBO, Gilles, *Les musiques du Petit Bonhomme* Éditions Québec Amérique.