



Lullabies

Brahms and Mozart
piano

Hush Little Baby Traditional
Hush Little Baby Revised

All Night, All Day (Spiritual)

Lullaby Mozart
Lullaby Brahms

Inuit Lullaby
Fais do Do

Day Is Done

It is probable (according to many music historians) that lullabies were the first songs ever sung by people.

Any song sung softly and slowly may work as a lullaby. Some songs are composed as lullabies.

Listening and Music Lullaby Wiegenlied = cradle + song

1

In 1868 Bertha Faber had a new baby boy. She also had a good friend who was a composer. His name was Johannes Brahms. (Pin up a copy of his picture.) He wrote a lullaby for his friend Bertha to sing to her son. Imagine that you are the father or the mother of a new baby, and a friend brings you this present.



Play Music Wiegenlied Op. 49 No. 4 Lullaby Brahms

2

Another composer, named Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, wrote a cradle song. Cradle song is another way to say lullaby. (Pin Mozart's picture some distance from Brahms'.) A cradle is a bed for a baby that has rockers instead of legs. Some people think Mozart was a better composer than Brahms. Some people like Brahms more. You've already heard Brahms's lullaby. Listen to Mozart's and decide which one you like better.



Play Music Wiegenlied K350 Lullaby Mozart

3

"Which lullaby do you prefer? Remind students there is no "correct" answer, and ask them to sit close to the composer's picture of the lullaby they preferred. Actually moving, instead of simply pointing, pushes students into making a definite choice. In turn, ask members of each group what they liked about their choice. Encourage use of musical words in your responses to what students say: e.g. student says: "I liked the way there was no loud music."

teacher response: "If there had been forte music

it might have woken up the baby."

4

Now place the two composer pictures side by side. Explore the differences in hair and clothes style. Under "Brahms" print "1800s". Under "Mozart" print "1700s". Imagine with students, the kind of clothing and hair style a composer today might have.

Johannes Brahms 1833-1897 (alive when Canada was born)

Johannes Brahms, May 7, 1833-April 3, 1897, was born in Germany but spent most of his life in Vienna. His father played the horn and the double bass. At the age of 7, Brahms began playing the piano. There are no copies of his early compositions, but there is a story from a friend who claims Brahms began writing music at age 11. Brahms destroyed all of his early work. He advocated music for music's sake ---refusing to write for ballet, opera or singers. The exception to his rule is the lullaby he composed for Bertha, Wiegenlied Op. 49 No. 4. He was a leader in the "Romantic" Period of music.



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart 1756-1791 (alive when the United States was born)



Mozart, January 27, 1756 - December 5, 1791 wrote during the "Classical" Period of music. He grew up in Salzburg, but like Brahms spent most of his career in Vienna. Mozart's father played piano, violin and did some composing. When he heard his son's compositions, he gave up composing as he realized his son's work was better. Mozart, the son, began composing at age 5 with his father writing the music down. Along with his sister, W.A.Mozart's childhood was hard as they traveled widely to be shown off by their father. Travel was dangerous, uncomfortable and unhealthy at the time. Musicians were not paid well and Mozart spent most of his life in poverty even though he was a favourite of kings. Unlike Brahms, Mozart liked to compose for opera. He wrote Wiegenlied K350 in 1780.