



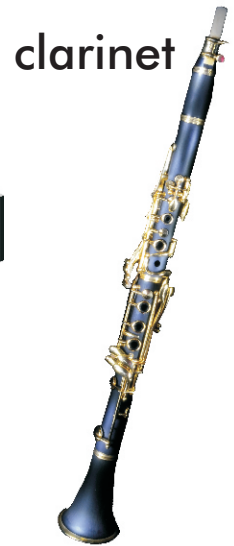
Camille Saint-Saëns  
Carnival of the Animals  
Fossils  
Aquarium



double bass  
cello  
viola  
violin



grand piano



clarinet



xylophone

The Kangaroos  
see Can Do Music 1, September



## Listening and Responding to Music

Camille Saint-Saens "The Carnival of the Animals" Fossils, Aquarium

**1** "Camille Saint-Saëns was a boy who lived in France. (French pronunciation) When he was 2 years old, he started taking piano lessons. **Two!** Did you take piano lessons when you were two years old?"

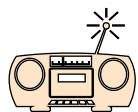
Just a few years later, he started to compose music --the kind of music that doesn't have words. Every time you hear me say his name today, I want you to echo it. Try it. Saint-Saëns (Saint-Saëns).

By the time Saint-Saëns (Saint-Saëns) was 10 years old, he was famous. The reason you haven't heard of Saint-Saëns (Saint-Saëns) is because he lived a long time ago; before computers, before tv, before cars, before electricity. What kind of things could he and his friends do for entertainment? (play, dance, tell stories, make music)

"Saint-Saëns (Saint-Saëns) lived in France (show country on a map). In 1886, when he was 50 years old, he and some friends went to Austria in February for a vacation. There was a big snowstorm, and they had to stay inside. So Saint-Saëns (Saint-Saëns) composed some music for his friends to play --just for fun."

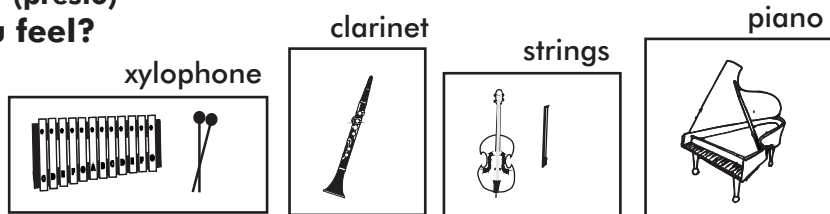
*DO NOT TELL CHILDREN THE NAME OF THE MUSIC SELECTION!*

"Listen to his music. If you wish, when you recognize an instrument, you may "pretend play"/mime it with your hands." (I mime the instruments too.)



Play Music Saint-Saens Fossils  
1 minute 8 seconds

**2** What instruments did you hear?  
What tempo was the music? (presto)  
How did the music make you feel?



Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921) was 2 years old when he began taking piano lessons from his aunt. By the time he was 10, he was famous as a musician.

While on vacation in an Austrian village during the winter of 1886, Saint-Saëns composed a series of short musical pieces for entertainment. He called the composition Carnival of Animals. Woven into the music were familiar tunes and ideas. You will probably recognize a tune or two.

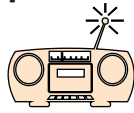
Saint-Saëns and his friends enjoyed the music on many levels. In a world with no Internet or tv, it was fun to play and hear something new. The audience tried to pick out all the familiar melodies Saint-Saëns had used. And, for those who were astute, each of the pieces was a parody of a person or idea.

The particular jokes Saint-Saëns was making with his music may not be familiar today, but it is still enjoyed world-wide. And if the imagination is set free, it is still possible to visualize people in the place of the musical animals.

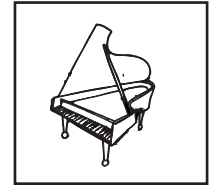
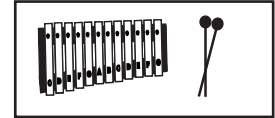
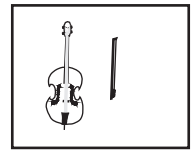
8 "Music can paint a picture in our imaginations. Sometimes when I listen, I close my eyes and "see" an empty piece of paper/canvas. As the music plays colours and pictures appear on my canvas."

Children may want to respond with their own ways of imagining.

Open up your imagination to Saint-Saens' music. This time, sit very still. You don't have to close your eyes, but you may if you want to. Use your mind's eye to paint a picture."



Play Music Saint-Saens Fossils  
1 minute 8 seconds

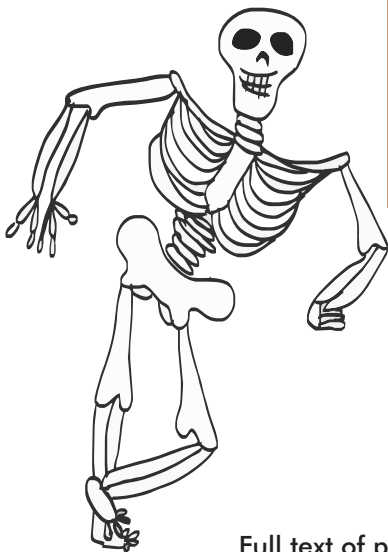


4 Ask for 2 or 3 images from listening. Encourage children to paint a picture with their words as they tell what they imagined.

5 "Saint-Saëns had a special picture in his mind when he wrote the music. He called the piece, "Fossils." The bones from dinosaurs are fossils.

If the book, Drumheller Dinosaur Dance is available, show a few of the pictures. (Robert Heidbreder, ill. by Bill Slavin Kids Can Press Canada 2004) ISBN 978-1-55337-982-9

6 "Saint-Saëns composed the music in 1886. In 1949, a poet wrote these words to go with the music. Try imagining them in your mind. (read the lines) What do you see?"



At midnight in the museum hall  
The fossils gathered ...  
... no drums or saxophones  
... the clatter of their bones  
a rolling, rattling ...  
of mammoth polkas ...

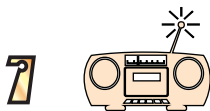
Ogden Nash 1949  
for a Columbia Records  
version of the  
Carnival of the Animals

The movie "Night at the Museum" and its sequel both have wonderful images of what it would be like if the bones at a museum came to life. Makes me wonder if its makers had heard this poem. Children may have seen the movie, or you may consider showing it in your classroom --a window into history?

Full text of poem is copyrighted.

Available at: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Carnival\\_of\\_the\\_Animals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Carnival_of_the_Animals)

Excellent reading given on YouTube under "Carnival of the Animals - Fossils."



Play Music Saint-Saens Fossils  
1 minute 8 seconds

# Music & Movement/Dance Fossils by Camille Saint-Saens

**1** Post the visual for the "Fossil Frolic" where it is easily visible. The rhythm of the opening piece of music is distinctive and memorable. It is difficult to tap with feet (easier done sitting if your knees are iffy like mine) but doable. Practice before trying to do this with your class.

**"We're going to do a dance to this music. The poster is to help us remember what steps to do in the different parts of Saint-Saens dance."**

**2** Demonstrate the different parts of the Fossil Frolic -- commenting on the rhythm, beat and which instrument is playing.

**3** Try the dance -- the children sitting with their feet flat and knees bent (easier for them to see you and less kerfuffle). If this goes well, then move on to dancing while standing. Even though the piece is short, it's very fast so takes energy.

**4**



## Play Music and Dance

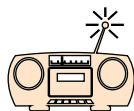
Saint-Saens Fossils  
1 minute 8 seconds  
or YouTube.com "Animal's Carnival -Fossils- part 9"

note: the music is quite fast and it may take a few tries to be able to stomp the xylophone part in time

**5**

**"After their frolic, the fossils were tired. So they danced to a different piece of Saint-Saens's music. When it begins, stand up and move to the sounds. Listen to what the music is telling you to do."** (This will serve as a "cooling down" activity and offers a contrasting piece of music for listening.)

**6**



## Play Music and Move Freely

Saint-Saens Aquarium  
2minutes 25seconds

or YouTube: "The Carnival of the Animals: The Aquarium."  
**AGAIN, DO NOT SHOW VIDEO TO CHILDREN YET**

**7**

After the music ask:

**"Saint-Saens wrote that music for a particular kind of animal. What kind of animal do you think it was?"** (fish)

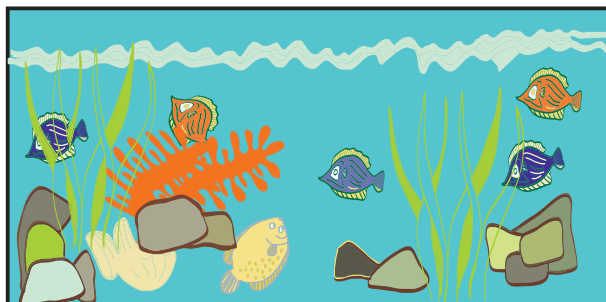
**"We're going to listen one more time as you rest your heads against your knees. Let your mind's eye see the underwater world with seaweed swaying and fish swimming."**

**8**



## Play Music

Saint-Saens  
Aquarium  
2minutes 25seconds



If you have a poster sized picture of an aquarium, it may help some of the children to focus.

### The Fossil Frolic

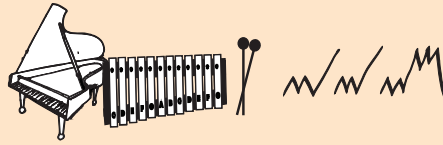
		on the first chord stand up
		tap the rhythm with your feet
		play the rhythm with your hands on your knees
		walk forward 4 then back 4 on the beat
		use hands to show the pitch (as per a melody map)
		tap the rhythm with your feet
		play the rhythm with your hands on your knees
		sway to the clarine part way through there are 4 distinct beats -punch them to the sky
		grand finale rhythm on feet & hands on knees
		sit down

Perhaps during an indoor recess you may want to show the video for this music. YouTube also has video with ballet for each piece. Fossil is under "Ballet Fantastique" and Aquarium under "Odyssey Dance Competition."

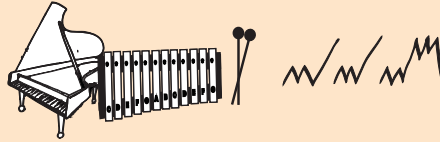
# The Fossil Frolic



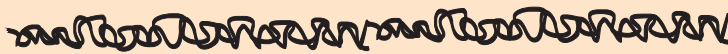
on the first chord  
stand up



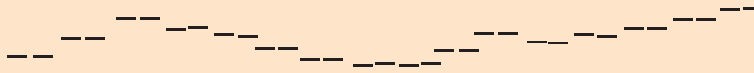
tap the rhythm  
with your feet



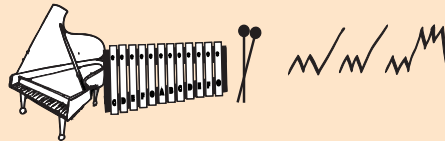
play the rhythm  
with your hands  
on your knees



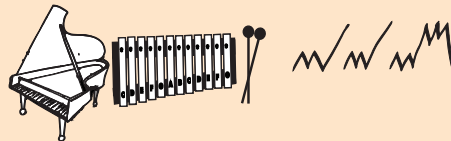
walk forward 4  
then back 4  
on the beat



use hands  
to show the pitch  
(as per  
a melody map)



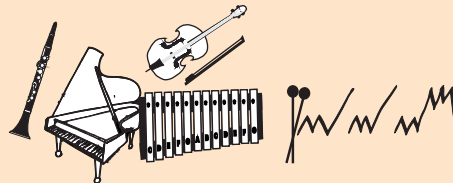
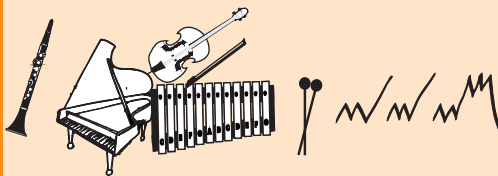
tap the rhythm  
with your feet



play the rhythm  
with your hands  
on your knees

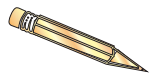


sway to the clarinet  
part way through  
there are  
4 distinct beats  
--punch them  
to the sky



grand finale  
rhythm on feet  
& hands on knees  
sit down

## New Repertoire



Fossil Frolic  
Saint-Saens "Fossils" and "Acquarium"

Sing I'm Gonna Be A Pirate  
Performance Practice

**At midnight in the museum hall  
The fossils gathered ...  
... no drums or saxophones  
... the clatter of their bones  
a rolling, rattling ...  
of mammoth polkas ...**

Ogden Nash 1949