

THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA  
LEARNING  
THROUGH  
MUSIC

## MATERIALS &amp; SETUP

- **Book:** *Something from Nothing* by Phoebe Gilman
- **Music:** “Simple Gifts” Shaker hymn
- **Music:** Excerpt from *Appalachian Spring* by Aaron Copland

## CONNECTIONS TO OH STANDARDS

## FINE ARTS



- **1CE** Visually and aurally, identify the four families of orchestral instruments.
- **1PR** Sing a varied repertoire with accurate rhythm and pitch individually and with others.
- **2RE** Notice and describe what they hear in selected pieces of music and compare their responses to those of others.

## SCIENCE



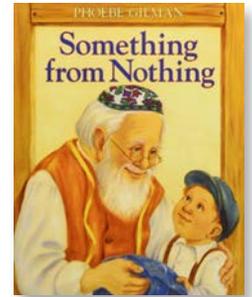
- Some of Earth’s resources are limited. Some of Earth’s resources become limited due to overuse and/or contamination. Reducing resource use, decreasing waste and/or pollution, recycling and reusing can help conserve these resources.

# Recycle This

**Learning Objective:** Students will compare and contrast the use of recycling and adapting in music.

## ACTIVITY (25-30 minutes)

1. Read the story *Something From Nothing*.
2. Draw the six-stage life cycle of Joseph’s blanket on the board (blanket, jacket, vest, tie, handkerchief, button).
3. Discuss with the students the following: What is recycling? (To reuse or adapt to a new use.) Just as Joseph’s blanket was recycled, what are some of the things we recycle every day? (Paper, plastic, aluminum, etc.) Why do we recycle? (Conserve Earth’s limited resources.) Do you think it might be possible to recycle music and art in any way?
4. Play “Simple Gifts” and have the class sing the melody and lyrics along with the recording. Talk about how this melody is like Joseph’s blanket, the original.
5. Play the excerpt from *Appalachian Spring*. Discuss how the melody is recycled among the different instruments (cello, viola, clarinet, oboe, etc.).
6. Notice that the cellos play the “Simple Gifts” melody first and then the violin comes in with the same melody shortly after. They are recycling within (called a canon) this recycled piece!
7. Compare and contrast how Joseph’s blanket was recycled and how the Shaker hymn “Simple Gifts” was recycled in *Appalachian Spring*.



## REFLECTION

1. Did the student identify what is recycling and did they provide examples from the story and from the music?
2. Did the student sing the melody and lyrics accurately?
3. Can the student identify the different instruments in the orchestra?

## EXTENSION

1. Create instruments out of recycled materials (plastic bottles, boxes and rubber bands, spoons, etc.)
2. Ask students to think of other popular melodies that have been recycled (“Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star” into the “Alphabet”).
3. Perform recycled melodies on recycled instruments.