

## Meet the Awesome Orchestra! Guide to the Orchestra

### Objective:

Students will learn to aurally identify instruments and families in Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*.

### Materials & Setup:

- *Instrument Cards*
- *Orchestra Map*

### Activity:

1. Display the *Orchestra Map* for students to see. Review the characteristics of the four families of instruments in the orchestra (String, Woodwind, Brass, Percussion) and each instrument within the families.
2. Listen to the theme of Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*. Tell students they will first hear the entire orchestra play the theme and then each instrument family (1. Woodwind, 2. Brass, 3. String, 4. Percussion) before the entire orchestra plays it again (0:00 – 2:07 or Listening Map [video](#)).
3. Pass out *Instrument Cards* to students. Note that some students may have the same instrument. You may choose to create the orchestra in your classroom by having students rearrange their seats by instrument to reflect the orchestra map.
4. Listen to the remaining Variations in *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* (Guide [video](#) 0:00-12:15). Ask students to raise their instrument card in the air when they hear their instrument playing.
5. Next, explain that a fugue is when a short melody or phrase (the subject) is introduced by one instrument and successively taken up by others and developed by interweaving the parts. Ask students to listen to the fugue and raise their card when they hear their instrument enter (Guide [video](#) 12:15-15:05).