

EPISODE 4**Sound and silence show dynamics (loud and soft)**

Sound and silence crash their ship!!! (Dynamic spectrum and expression)

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

I can identify and perform changes in dynamics.

I can identify and define dynamic notation.

RECOMMENDED ITEMS:

- Character cards/powerpoint
- Listening example: [Florence Price: Symphony No. 1 in E Minor Mvt. 3 Juba Dance](#)
- Worksheet with sound and silence comic to color in and draw dynamics

ACTIVITY 1: (INTRODUCE DYNAMICS AND EXPRESSION - 10 MIN)

- Teacher leads students through comic strip filling in dynamics. Students color in pictures with expressive qualities
- Frame 1: p - (spaceship quietly flying through space)
- Frame 2: F - (music note asteroid hits ship) crescendo to next frame
- Frame 3: FF - (they tumble down to the planet surface) crescendo to next frame
- Frame 4: mp (right before hitting the ground they land safe and sound)
- Students put dynamics in order of quietest to loudest (**PP, P, MP, MF, F, FF**).
- Have students re-arrange the story to have different dynamic changes then act, or read through the story using dynamics.
- Which frames got louder? Which frames got quieter?
- Teacher explains that sometimes music gets gradually louder and builds excitement (Crescendo) and sometimes music gets gradually quieter to create calmness (De-crescendo) like a rollercoaster.
- Teacher performs or plays example of a crescendo and de-crescendo and has students hop while listening to music. When music crescendos, students should hop high and do jumping jacks and when the music de-crescendos students should hop low and get low to the ground.

ACTIVITY 2: (FLORENCE PRICE SPOTLIGHT)

As an American composer in the early 20th century, Florence Price was unique in that she was both African-American and a woman. Either of those distinctions would have made it difficult to have her compositions performed in America in the 1930s, but Price composed more than 300 works and earned a champion in Chicago Symphony Orchestra conductor Frederick Stock. Price's compositions offer a charming and authentic blend of jazz, African-American church music and European art music.

continued on reverse

EPISODE 4 CONT.

Listening Map: Musical sections are repeated twice. Have students fill out dynamic definitions while listening through the piece.

SECTION	INSTRUMENTS	DYNAMIC SYMBOL	DEFINITION
1	Intro Violins – Main Melody	P=piano	Piano=Quiet
2	Brass	Mp	
3	Strings & Aux Perc (Whistle	Mp	
4	Woodwinds	P	
5	Brass & Strings	Mf	
6	French Horn & Low Brass	Mp	
7	Oboe	Mp	
8	Strings	Mp	
9	Strings	Mp	
10	Full Orchestra	F	
11	Full Main Melody	F	
12	Ending	F	
13	Ending	F	
14	End tempo slows w/clarinet	Mp	
15	Big ending chords	F	