

Episode 4: Dynamic spectrum and expression (loud and soft)

Student Learning Objectives:

I can identify and perform changes in dynamics

I can identify and define dynamic symbols

Activity 1: Introduce dynamics and expression - 10 min

- Teacher leads students through comic strip filling in dynamics and students color in pictures with expressive qualities
- Frame 1: p - (spaceship quietly flying through space)
- Frame 2: F – (music note asteroid hits ship and
- Frame 3: FF - they tumble down to the planet surface)
- Frame 4: mp (right before hitting the ground they land safe and sound)
- Students put dynamics in order of softest to loudest.

PP, P,MP, MF, F, FF

Activity 2: Florence Price Spotlight:

As an American composer in the early 20th century, Florence Price had the double disadvantage of being both African-American and a woman. Either of those distinctions would have been enough to not have been 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, spirituals, African-American church music and European art music.

Listening Map: sections (repeated twice) fill out definitions while listening through the piece.

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

Section	Instruments (tone)	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	