



Smarty Activity

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APP: *Smarty Britches: Nouns*

**Activity Title: Classical Music Research
Approximate Grade Level(s): 1-3**

Subject(s): Language Arts, Literacy in Music

Student Friendly Objective:

- **I will research information about the musician Handel, and I will write what I have learned in the first person point of view.**

Common Core Standards:

- **RIT.6 - Distinguish their own point of view from that of the author of a text.**
- **W.2 - Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.**

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- **W.4 - With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.**
- **W.6 - With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.**
- **W.7 - Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.**
- **W.8 - Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.**
- **L.3 - Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.**

Bloom's Taxonomy:

- **Remembering: locate, list, and write.**
- **Understanding: restate, distinguish, and demonstrate.**
- **Applying: construct, put together, and choose.**
- **Analyzing: categorize and separate.**
- **Evaluating: choose and assess.**
- **Creating: compose, plan, and imagine.**

Prior Knowledge Needed:

- **Students need to be able to do internet research and need to be familiar with free technological apps, such as *iBrainstorm* and *Penzu*.**
- **Students need to be familiar with first person point of view.**

Pre-Activity Interest:

- **Students interact with the app *Smarty Britches: Nouns*.**

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- **Project the page of the app where Dad is in Hog Heaven. When the dialogue has finished, touch Dad, and let the students hear Handel’s “Messiah” playing. Go to YouTube link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usfiAsWR4qU> and let students see and hear Handel’s “Messiah.”**

Direct Instruction:

- **Using the internet or texts, students research Handel’s biography. They locate a designated number of facts about the musician and subdivide these into categories: early life, adult life, music, etc.**
- **Using the internet, students locate a picture of Handel.**

Smarty Activity:

- **Using a free technological app, such as *iBrainstorm*, students list the collected facts, using each note to represent a category.**
- **Using a free technological app, such as *Penzu*, students will write a biography in the voice of Handel, first person point of view. Each category could be a paragraph.**
- **Students will title the biography and attach the picture of Handel that they located on the internet.**

Special Needs Modifications

- **Student-Friendly Objective: I will listen to Handel’s “Messiah” and respond to questions.**
- **CCSS: RI.7, SL.1, SL.3.**
- **Bloom’s: recall, describe, illustrate, examine, discuss, and predict.**

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Smarty Activity

- Briefly discuss who Handel was.
- Listen to Handel's "Messiah:"
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usfiAsWR4qU>
and let students see and hear Handel's "Messiah."
- Project and listen to the page in *Smarty Britches: Nouns* where the song plays while Dad is in Hog Heaven.
- Have students respond to the following questions:
 - ✓ Have you heard this song before? Where was it? When was it?
 - ✓ How does this song make you feel when you listen to it?
 - ✓ Why do you think the author chose this song to play while Dad is in the make-believe Place Noun of Hog Heaven?
 - ✓ Think of another situation where this song could play as background music. What would this picture look like? Draw it.

Assessment:

- Assessment or grading is an individual choice; however, keep your Common Core Standards in mind while creating your assessment.
- Create the assessment prior to giving the students the activity. Share it with the students before they begin the activity so that they will know "up front" how they will be assessed.
 - Use your favorite search engine to locate and create an assessment rubrics

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Required Materials and Equipment:

- **App *Smarty Britches: Nouns***
- **iOS, Android, or Kindle tablet device**
- **internet**
- **free technological apps, such as *iBrainstorm* and *Penzu*.**

Technology Note: The technological references stated in this activity are not exclusively required, but are indicative of your possible choices.

Bibliography

"Bloom's Taxonomy." . N.p., n.d. Web. 17 Jan 2012.

<[http://www.casdk12.net/ghs04/SRB/5-Curriculum/Blooms Taxonomy chart.pdf](http://www.casdk12.net/ghs04/SRB/5-Curriculum/Blooms%20Taxonomy%20chart.pdf)>.

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