



## Lesson Ideas

- Write an obituary that may have appeared in the newspaper after Stravinsky's death. Include some biographical details, describe his music and discuss the contribution he made to classical music. For a shorter form of this activity, write an epitaph that sums up Stravinsky's life. For a definition and examples of epitaphs, see here:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epitaph>

- In a group, create a television news report about the opening night riot of *The Rite of Spring*. You could include a news reporter, footage (or role-playing) of the shocked audience reaction, a re-enactment of parts of the dancing, interviews with Stravinsky and audience members and excerpts of the music playing in the background. You could even video the news report and upload it onto You Tube.

- The listening list also contains a link to a video of the re-enactment of the original version of this ballet

## Extension Activity

Do an internet search to find a prominent 20th century composer who was influenced by Stravinsky. Briefly outline the impact that Stravinsky's music had on their own musical style.

## Listening Activity

*Firebird: Infernal Dance*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTGrHibHrNg>

While listening to *Infernal Dance* from *The Firebird*, draw or paint your impressions. It does not necessarily have to have a subject - it could be colors or lines that you feel reflect the music. (Oil pastels are an inexpensive, vibrant and relatively mess-free medium suitable for this activity)

Now read the the story of *The Firebird* here:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Firebird](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Firebird)

Listen to the music again and discuss if knowing the subject matter changes the way you hear the music

## Listening List



You can use your own recordings or view videos and get audio links to these pieces from:  
[http://www.funmusicco.com/private/pmlp\\_module2/resources/lesson13.html](http://www.funmusicco.com/private/pmlp_module2/resources/lesson13.html)  
(you'll need to login)

*The Rite of Spring* (Russian in style)

*Petrushka* (An example of Stravinsky's Russian music)

*Symphony of Psalms* (An example of neoclassical style)

*Agon: Beginning* (an example of serial or twelve-tone music)

## Resource List

Classics for Kids has short radio shows on Stravinsky's life and one specifically on The Firebird ballet

<http://classicsforkids.com/shows/showview.asp?ID=7>

Footage of Stravinsky conducting his Firebird Suite

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tGA6bpscj8&feature=related>

Time Magazine biography as part of the "100 Most Influential People of the 20th Century"

<http://www.time.com/time/time100/artists/profile/stravinsky.html>

## Art Links

Picasso: *Les Femmes d'Alger (O. J. M.)*

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Chicks-from-avignon.jpg>

Picasso: *Three Musicians*

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Picasso\\_three\\_musicians\\_moma\\_2006.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Picasso_three_musicians_moma_2006.jpg)

Picasso: *Guernica*

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:PicassoGuernica.jpg>