



WCCS Recommends

Christmas music for boys age 4 – 13



Age 12-13

Gaudete

Traditional, arr. Karl Jenkins

Jenkins is an eclectic 20th-Century composer who has arranged an old carol in a modern setting. How is it different from the original? Do the differences make better music? Has he gone far enough in modernising the carol?

To listen, click here...



Representation of a Mystery Play

From a drawing by David J. In Skerf's "Coventry Mystery," 1815

Age 11- 12

Coventry Carol

Traditional, arr. Richard Allain

A Medieval carol, originally written for a mystery play in Coventry. How does Allain create suspense in the music?

To listen, click here...



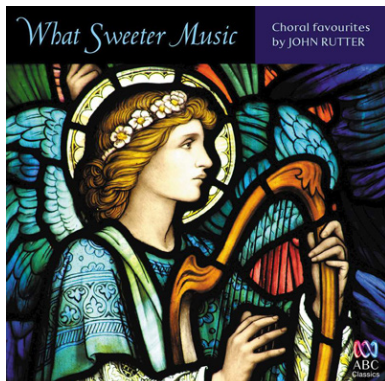
Age 10-11

For Unto Us a Child is Born from Messiah

George Frederic Handel

Handel was a prolific Baroque composer, and this piece is a celebration of Christmas with a text from Isaiah. How does Handel use the same tune in different ways across the choir? How does this generate excitement?

To listen, click here...

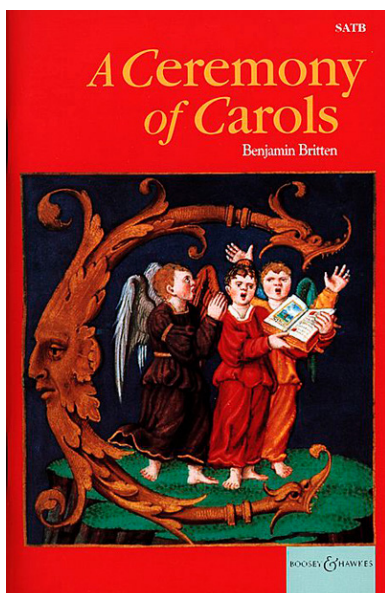


Age 9-10
What Sweeter Music

John Rutter

Rutter is a popular modern composer, his work synonymous with Christmas. Here he uses a 17th-century text by Robert Herrick. Can you name the different voices as they appear with the tune? How does Rutter use the voices and orchestra to convey 'sweet' music?

To listen, click here...



Age 8-9
There Is No Rose from A Ceremony of Carols

Benjamin Britten

This medieval text was set by modern British composer, Britten. What instrument accompanies the choir? What are the similarities and differences between the accompaniment and the choir? How would you describe the dynamics?

To listen, click here...

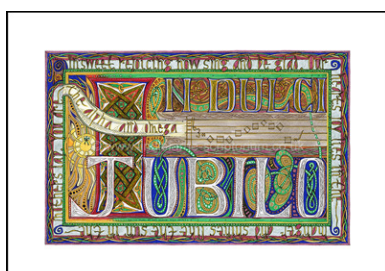


Age 7-8
Troika from Lieutenant Kije

Sergei Prokofiev

This piece was written for a film and depicts a sleigh (troika) ride. How does Prokofiev do this? How many different instruments can you name?

To listen, click here...



Age 6-7
In Dulci Jubilo
Traditional, arr. Mike Oldfield

Try clapping the rhythm to this Tudor carol. Is this piece fast or slow? Is it happy or sad? Try singing along.

To listen, click here...



Age 5-6

Waltz of the Flowers from The Nutcracker

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Can you hear the oom-pah-pah rhythm? Try moving your feet in time with the music.

To listen, click here...



Age 4-5

Silent Night

Franz Gruber

When would this have been sung in the nativity story? Can you think of three words to describe the sound?

To listen, click here...

WCCS Recommends more at
www.choirschool.com