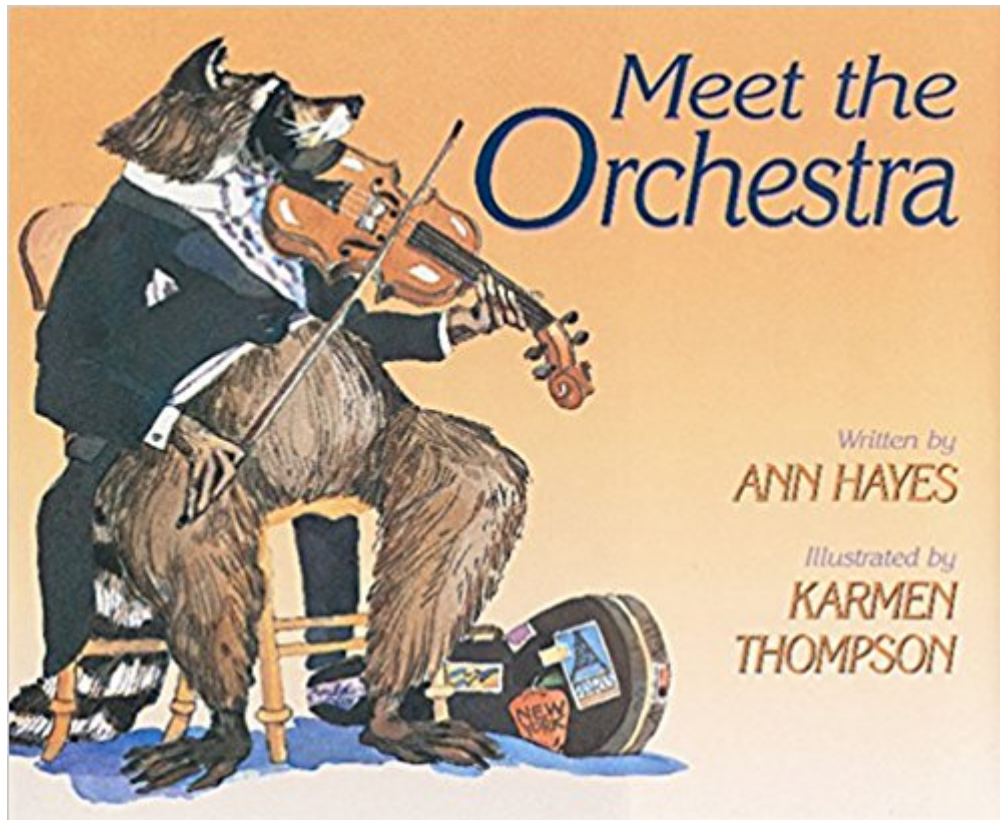




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# Meet The Orchestra



## Synopsis

This lyrical romp through the orchestra begins with animal musicians slowly gathering for the evening performance. Poetic descriptions suggest the sounds of the instruments, and lively watercolor illustrations capture the playful essence of each musician and musical instrument. *It's a smashing introduction to classical music, and a must prior to a first visit to the symphony.* *—Publishers Weekly*

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD720L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (March 27, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0152002227

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Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 59 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #76,717 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in *Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Classical* #23 in *Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Instrumentation > Orchestra* #3943 in *Books > Children's Books > Animals*

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Working within the framework of an evening at the symphony--the title page features concert-goers buying tickets, the last page shows musicians and audience members heading home--these collaborators have drummed up a treasure of a book for musically inclined children. Each instrument of the orchestra--from oboes and violas to tubas, trumpets and timpani--is explained, with clear definitions as well as more subjective information as to how each one sounds (the clarinet's "cool tones melt in your ears just like ice cream melts in your mouth"). Thompson's illustrations are sumptuously silly--but musically correct--featuring an array of formally dressed animal musicians (check out the otter in tails on the piccolo). Readers also meet the conductor and learn his role, and are treated to a glimpse of the orchestra seated and in full cry. It's a smashing introduction to classical music, and a must prior to a first visit to the symphony. Ages 4-8. Copyright 1991 Reed

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Kindergarten-Grade 3-- An attractive, well-planned book that introduces the orchestra's families (groups of like instruments) and its members. In clear and understandable prose, each instrument's function, especially as it relates to the other members of its family, and its sound are described in sometimes poetic phrases--"its song can be bright as laughter, light as air, soft as a whisper, or sad as a tear." Single- or double-page spreads feature a large watercolor illustration of an animal playing the instrument under discussion. Although most are aptly chosen for their instruments--a polar bear playing a bassoon and a lion as the conductor--some are disconcerting. The sight of a chimpanzee in a pink dress and frilly pantaloons sitting at a grand piano lessens the effectiveness of that instrument's description. Overall, however, these creatures add a lively note and enable the book to be friendly and accessible without exhibiting the overriding silliness found in Eugen's *Orchestranimals* (Scholastic, 1989). A good book to use in the classroom as well as individually, this is a collaboration between two artists whose love for music and the orchestra is evident throughout.

--Jane Marino, White Plains Pub . Lib . , NYCopyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Purchased this book as a pre-teaching tool in preparation for taking my Homeschool to the Symphony. The book describes all the instruments with colorful illustrations. My children grades K-7 all enjoyed the book and it was exciting to hear them make connections at the event between book and practical experiential learning!

The ebook version is worthless. The pages are fragmented and do not align properly on the display. They are framed by the actual text of the story. Properly converted ebooks highlight the text, but do not copy it outside the pages of the original book, and therefore do not detract from the overall appearance. There is no way I could share this book with a child or with the classes I teach. A word of caution in general-- "samples" usually do not include enough pages to be able to identify such problems in advance. Do yourself a favor, and avoid ebooks for children.

There are not a lot of books about orchestras that are aimed at young children. This book does a few things really well. The illustrations are wonderful, and depict animals buying their tickets and getting seated, playing realistic-looking instruments, and going home. The illustrations get five stars. The text falls off a bit, and demonstrates a problem describing music with words. To say that an

instrument sounds "blue" really doesn't say much. The text gets three stars. What is just maddening is that publishers can crank out any number of cartoon character books, with buttons along the side, that make an assortment of sounds. Why then can't some publisher use the same technology to give a brief sample of what the instruments sound like? I read this book, and I think of how it could have been so much better.

my grand kids loved this ... it is told in simple and fun terms and with appealing graphics. A good way to teach without seeming to do so. Easily understood. I also got a cd player and some classical music CD's and this has helped them to listen to the different parts

Nice pix. I'd prefer the text to be a little lighter, more accessible for small children, maybe some cute little rhymes. But it's nice to have a picture of instruments and orchestra players that are animals.

I purchased this book for my music students. I teach a string class in school and I wanted to introduce my students to all the instruments in an orchestra. The illustrations in this book are amazing!

This book is a helpful and enjoyable way to learn about the various types of instruments. I learned quite a bit about different instruments. The pictures are funny with different animals playing the instruments. Our children loved the pictures, but they were probably a bit too distracted by the pictures. Also, many of the sounds are described in an poetic way that is not very objective in my opinion.

A very simple and short description of some of the instruments seen in the orchestra. The illustrations are big and the text short. Suitable for very young children to read it by themselves. Not enough information to understand the orchestra even at superficial level. Last but not least, this is a paperback book without accompanying audio CD. The price is already high compared to other books. I do not recommend this product especially if international shipping is required.

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