



THE CLIBURN

# CLIBURN KIDS

with Buddy Bray



## EPISODE 9: THE CAT AND THE MOUSE COPLAND "THE CAT AND THE MOUSE"

# TODAY'S WORKSHEET

"The Cat and the Mouse" was one of the earliest pieces of music written by well-known American composer Aaron Copland. In fact, it was the very first piece of music he ever published! Buddy tells us in this week's video how old Aaron Copland was when he wrote this piece—do you remember his age? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever watched *Tom and Jerry*? In this piece of music, the composer makes the piano sound like a cartoon chase between a cat and a mouse. It's as if you're watching the cartoon with your ears! He does this in a few different ways. Let's figure out what they are!



First, Buddy shows us the cat's music. Let's describe the music to help us imagine the cat.

Is it low or high? \_\_\_\_\_

Fast or slow, or maybe both? \_\_\_\_\_

Does it move all around the keyboard, or stay in one place? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the music smooth, or choppy? \_\_\_\_\_

How does the music make you feel? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is this cat lazy, or sneaky? \_\_\_\_\_

What color do you think this cat is? \_\_\_\_\_

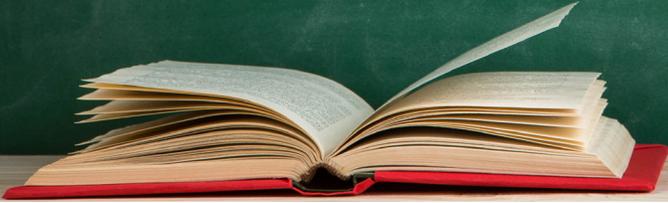
Is it a kitten, or a full-grown cat? \_\_\_\_\_



THE CLIBURN

# CLIBURN KIDS

with Buddy Bray



## EPISODE 9: THE CAT AND THE MOUSE COPLAND "THE CAT AND THE MOUSE"

What is the cat doing before he sees the mouse? \_\_\_\_\_

Draw a picture of what you think our cat looks like!

Now, let's listen to the mouse music and describe the mouse in our story.

Is it low or high? \_\_\_\_\_

Fast or slow, or maybe both? \_\_\_\_\_

Does it move all around the keyboard, or stay in one place? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the music smooth, or choppy? \_\_\_\_\_

How does the music make you feel? \_\_\_\_\_

What color is this mouse? \_\_\_\_\_

Does the mouse move quickly or slowly? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the mouse doing before it sees the cat? \_\_\_\_\_



THE CLIBURN

# CLIBURN KIDS

with Buddy Bray



## EPISODE 9: THE CAT AND THE MOUSE COPLAND "THE CAT AND THE MOUSE"

Draw a picture of the mouse!

Finally, let's listen to and describe the "chase" music!

Is it low or high? \_\_\_\_\_

Fast or slow, or maybe both? \_\_\_\_\_

Does it move all around the keyboard, or stay in one place? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the music smooth, or choppy? \_\_\_\_\_

How does the music make you feel? \_\_\_\_\_

Where does this chase take place? In a house, a barn, or maybe outside? \_\_\_\_\_

Does the cat jump, or maybe fall? How and when can you tell? \_\_\_\_\_

How does the music end? Is it loud and cheerful, or does it fade away quietly? Is it low or high?

Based on the music, who do you think wins our chase? How can you tell?



THE CLIBURN

# CLIBURN KIDS

with Buddy Bray



## EPISODE 9: THE CAT AND THE MOUSE COPLAND "THE CAT AND THE MOUSE"

# LEARN ABOUT THE COMPOSER!

### **AARON COPLAND** 1900–1990

Aaron Copland was born in 1900 in Brooklyn, New York. He did not grow up in a musical family; his parents were Russian immigrants who never even went to a concert. However, when Copland was a teenager, he began to have an interest in music. He learned to play the piano from his older sister Laurine, and in less than one year Copland had learned everything she could teach him.

Aaron began formal music lessons and played in his first concert when he was 15. It was shortly afterwards that he decided to become a composer. When Copland graduated from high school he dreamed of studying music in France, and for the next several years, he saved his money and continued to practice. Finally, in 1921, Copland went to France to study at a new American school for music in Paris. He studied for three years in France, toured Europe, and then returned to New York.

Copland's musical works range from ballet and orchestral music to choral music and movie scores. He wrote music for American audiences with American themes. One of these pieces is *Lincoln Portrait*, a piece about Abraham Lincoln. His most famous works are the ballets *Rodeo* and *Appalachian Spring*, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1945.

Aaron Copland's early music mixed very modern musical ideas with the styles of Latin American jazz music. His style began to change during the Great Depression as his concern with modern techniques lessened, and his music emphasized simpler harmonies, broad melodies, and hints of folk melodies. While Copland never abandoned his more adventurous approach, he is best remembered for creating a truly American symphonic style.

