

Background Information



The symphonic fairy tale for children, *Peter and the Wolf*, was written in 1936 by Sergei Prokofiev as a teaching tool for his two sons, after taking them to see a production at the Moscow Children's Music Theatre. He wrote *Peter and the Wolf* to introduce children to the instruments and sounds of a symphony orchestra. It has become a classic for symphony orchestras throughout the world.

You will find two other downloadable documents in this section that may be useful in providing background information on Prokofiev and his native Russia.

The first is a downloadable document containing factual information related to the Russian composer/author of *Peter and the Wolf*, Sergei Prokofiev. This document is designed to be used as teacher background material, for higher grade levels, or for advanced or gifted students. You may also wish to "dilute" the material into a level more consistent with the developmental structure of grade 1 and 2 students (our primary student audience for this Young People's Concert Series).

The second downloadable document also provides factual information related to the country of Prokofiev's birth, Russia. The material on Russia is designed to be used as teacher background material, for higher grade levels, or for advanced or gifted students. Again, it may be "diluted" as appropriate.

