

Vocabulary

Ballet – A story told through music and dance.

Bar – Splitting music up into smaller groups of beats, often 2, 3 or 4 beats.

Crescendo – Gradually getting louder.

Melody – Another word for 'tune'.

Ostinato – A repeating pattern of music.

Pulse – A steady beat.

Tuned percussion - percussion instruments that can play different pitches – xylophones, glockenspiels, chime bars etc.

Untuned percussion - percussion instruments that can only make a limited number of sounds – drums, shakers and claves etc.

'Waltz of the Flowers' and 'Russian Dance' from The Nutcracker Suite – Tchaikovsky

How does time signature affect a piece of music?



About the composer:



Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky was a Russian composer, who was born in 1840 and died in 1893.

He was most famous for the ballets and symphonies he wrote.

Tchaikovsky had a sad life and thought he wasn't good at what he did.

Prior learning

Learning songs, chants and rhymes, exploring instruments in EYFS.

Exploring and improvising rhythms in KS1.

Interesting ideas:

Listen out for the different timings in each piece of music. The 'Russian Dance' has two beats in every bar, but the 'Waltz of the flowers' has three beats in each bar. This gives each piece a very different feel and mood.

Useful links:

Follow this link to listen to 'Russian Dance' by Tchaikovsky.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBb6z83uSXM>