Families of Instruments: CSO Links Lesson 2, Feb/Mar 2004

Grade 6
Sarah Good, Zoe Quan

What is an orchestra? How are they players arranged? Roll of Conductor?
Size? How many families? Why called families?

Differences between instruments in orchestra and instruments in jazz band
• What is in both?
• What is missing

Play Britten Young Person’s Guide, intro full orchestra

String Family
• Characteristics—shape, how played, sounds
• Where do they sit?
• Play Britten strings
• Relationship between size and sound

Wind Family
• Characteristics—shape, how played, sounds
• Where do they sit?
• Play Britten winds

Brass Family
• Characteristics—shape, how played, sounds
• Where do they sit?
• Play Britten brass

Percussion Family
• Characteristics—shape, how played, sounds
• Where do they sit? Why?
• Play Britten percussion

Play Britten recap—identify which families playing when

Play Peter and the Wolf intro—What instruments? How sound? Hear how composer uses instruments and melodies to identify different characters?

Play Peter and the Wolf closing—have class identify which families playing when, which characters