



The Ugly Duckling

- Introduce your students to the story of *The Ugly Duckling*. We suggest some of these beautifully illustrated books, which can be found at your local library or bookseller or online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com): this story by Hans Christian Andersen emphasizes that others should value people for their inner beauty, since you cannot tell what people are truly like based on appearances alone.
- The music from *Once Upon a Symphony* is found on this [Spotify](#) playlist. Here's how the music helps to tell the story:
 - Morning Mood from *Peer Gynt* Suite No. 1 by Edvard Grieg
 - This piece sets the summer scene of Mother Duck waiting patiently on her nest for her ducklings to hatch.
 - *The Four Seasons* by Antonio Vivaldi
 - Autumn - This music expresses the daily life on a farm and the joy of the harvest.
 - Winter – This piece illustrates the cold winter weather and the cold, lonely Duckling.
 - Spring – The warm sun returns and the Ugly Duckling realizes that he is actually a beautiful swan.
 - *The Blue Danube* by Johann Strauss II
 - With this piece, the ducklings discover the thrill of swimming in the pond.
 - *The Swan* by Camille Saint-Saëns
 - During this iconic music, The Ugly Duckling watches his parents soar overhead as he rejoices in the discovery that he is a swan.
 - *Holberg Suite, Op.40, Rigaudon* by Edvard Grieg
 - This music celebrates the beauty that lives in each of us.

- As your students listen to *Morning Mood*, have them pretend that it is early in the morning and they are just waking up. Students can stretch and move like they are rising with the sun.
- Students can explore the $\frac{3}{4}$ meter in *The Blue Danube* by Johann Strauss II by moving like a swan in a pond.
- This poem can also be recited as students listen to *The Blue Danube*:

Stand up very tall

Let's reach for the sky

Let's bend to the left

Let's bend to the right

Let's all touch our toes

Now all touch our nose

Let's move like a swan in a pond

Now let's stop and strike a pose