



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE  
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### **Ideas for Using Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* CD**

There are many ways to use the engaging music on the NAC Orchestra's CD of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*. Frequent playing builds familiarity and enjoyment for your students.

- Create a template for a *listening log* and have students record the title of the composition, a description of the music, and a personal response to it. You can use this same template for listening to other CDs – add a column for the composer's name and the date of the composition.
- Play a selection from the CD for classroom *transitions* when you are changing activities and want to establish a definite ending and a new beginning. Give students until the end of the music to get their materials tidied up and books out for the next subject.
- Several selections on the Vivaldi CD are particularly calming. Listening for a few minutes with eyes closed refreshes students and readies them for learning.
- These compositions incorporate dramatic changes, making them ideal for mapping. Ask students to draw a map of what happens in the music as they listen to it; post and compare maps.
- The *Four Seasons* are made up of contrasting sections of music for *solo* violin and *tutti* (full string orchestra). Make a game to follow this alternation by standing up for solo sections and sitting down for tutti sections.
- Have a Vivaldi fortnight at your school. As students enter the building play one movement of the *Four Seasons* over the PA system.
- Follow the suggestions in the Listening Guide page 12.