How to listen to classical music with children:

- Especially if listening at home, have extra copies of ROCO worksheets, along with inviting art supplies. Paint, Playdough, crayons, additional paper etc.

- Let them ask questions! It's ok to Google the answers!

- Ask leading questions like "how did the music feel to you? What did that make you think of? Where does this music take place? There are no wrong answers!

- Ask questions or point out specifics to the music: "Did you hear the ______?" "Did that sound high/low, fast/slow, smooth/bumpy?"

- Let them know what you think about the music! "I liked the part that went______." "That sounded _____!" "That made me think about ________.

- Join the fun! The ROCO Rooters worksheets are made with families in mind, they can be a great way to relax, write down some thoughts and be involved in creating while you listen.

- And of course, HAVE FUN!
PLAY with sound-Explore during Re(New)al Viet Cuong

ROCORooters in Person will be focusing and exploring this music in a very Reggio-Emilo type setting. I wanted to try and give that opportunity to at-home listeners here. Parents and caregivers, it would be beneficial for you to watch the video links/read the articles to grasp some basics of sound physics. Just for the curious children who love to ask “why” and “how” Of course there is more and more you could dive in and learn about, and please do! I tried to share kid-friendly, shorter videos that your children might also enjoy.

Children learn through play. Be an active observer, more than an interference. Play alongside them, not for them. These experiments can be achieved with common household items, and of course, water, air and temperatures. I’ve included some worksheets for the artistic listening experiences. But feel free to bring out any art medium you may have. A mess can always be cleaned up. All of these are merely suggestions. Chose what seems fun and doable for your family.

Be safe, have fun, and enjoy the concert!

I. Hydro

Before or After the Concert

[Link](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDKZdSSPFDA)

This is an excellent video with several water play ideas. One of the easiest applications would be to blow across water bottles, also to tap water bottles on the sides. When blowing across, more water makes a higher pitch. When tapping a glass bottle outside with a higher volume of water the pitch lowers. Hmm.

Metal bowls make fun sounds when plonked around in water. Much like the glasses played during the concert.

What sounds can you make with your voice or instruments at home that sound like falling or rushing water? (at home instruments can be toy xylophones, out of tune ukuleles, guitars and recorders, hidden away high school band and orchestra instruments, and good old pots, pans and Tupperware!)

For an indoor option to the video link, try some metal bowls in the bathtub. Bubbles optional.

During the Concert

What colors represent water? Make some water inspired art. Use watercolors!

Can you move your body in a dance like water? Fluid, flowing, rush, trickle, drop, are words sometimes associated with water-like dance.

Have some yummy beverages to sip while you listen.

Bring out some water animal toys or boats to listen (and move) with you.
II. Wind

**Before or After the Concert**

[https://sciencemadefun.net/blog/think-about-it-thursday-2/](https://sciencemadefun.net/blog/think-about-it-thursday-2/)

Make or buy pinwheels, blow up and let go of balloons, again, blowing across the tops of water bottles. Sing into an electric fan, blow into any wind instrument, if possible, or listen to wind chimes.

Wind movement and aerosol movement from wind instruments video.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AFBLuwYnPP8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AFBLuwYnPP8)

What sounds come from the wind? Listen to windchimes if you have them, sit outside and listen to the wind moving objects as sound. Do it again with your eyes closed. What did you hear? Draw and guess what sound the wind was making.

What sounds can you make with your voice or instruments at home that sound like wind blowing? (at home instruments can be toy xylophones, out of tune ukuleles, guitars and recorders, hidden away high school band and orchestra instruments, and good old pots, pans and Tupperware!)

**During the Concert:**

Notice the drummers moving in a circle like a windmill. Can you move like a windmill? Have a family member “blow” to turn you win different directions!

Make your own fan or pinwheel!

What colors might represent wind? Draw, paint, or color art inspired by the wind and it’s sounds.

If you have a fan or pinwheel, use that to move with the music.

Bubble dance party. This could also happen after or before and to your own musical selections or with your own music making. If your could hear a bubble pop, what would it sound like?

Bring out any bird or airplane toys to listen (and move) with you.
III. Solar

**Before or After the Concert**


I don’t want anyone to get hurt playing around with heat and sound. So listen carefully to the music and notice the very warm, rising sounds and take note of how the music seems warm. Temperature does affect sound. Marching bands have to take the tuning of their instrument very seriously when playing in cold or hot weather parades and football games!

Think of the term “warm up” While that often refers to our muscles, sometimes instruments literally have to come to the right temperature to sound their best!

How do you “warm up” before running or playing a sport? Do some of those motions right now!

What sounds can you make with your voice or instruments at home that sound like warm vs cold? (at home instruments can be toy xylophones, out of tune ukuleles, guitars and recorders, hidden away high school band and orchestra instruments, and good old pots, pans and Tupperware!)

Play flashlight tag in the backyard just before bedtime.

**During the Concert**

Notice the rising and falling pitch of the music. That repeats a lot. Can you move your arms, legs, whole body with the rising, swelling sounds and then in contrast to the lowering, falling sounds?

Make more art! Using warm and cool colors, depict your favorite kind of weather. Draw a marching band during a hot or cold parade.

Eat some cool and warm treats while you listen!

As this piece really explores energy, do a lights on, lights off dance. Can you match the faster rising, with lights on, and the falling with lights off? Just like solar energy would give more during the day, than night? Try this with different music, OR make your own! Also can be done before or after the concert.

Listen with warm and cold climate animal toys.

Listen in the dark and move with a flashlight.
I. HYDRO