



It's Music Time!

The 39 Apartments of Ludwig Van Beethoven – Cross-Curricular Arts Lessons

By: Jonah Winter

Illustrated by: Barry Blitt

Schwartz & Wade Books, New York

ISBN: 978-0-375-83602-2

MATERIALS:

- Book: The 39 Apartments of Ludwig Van Beethoven
- Chart paper with headings: Setting, Character, Problem, Solution
- Post-it notes with words/vocabulary from the story

BOOK SUMMARY:

This book pokes fun at Beethoven and his eccentricities. It states facts about Beethoven and where he lived. But it also guesses at the why and how.

Literacy Ideas

1. **Conversational Tea Party:** Select words from the book that have to do with SETTING, CHARACTER, PROBLEM, & SOLUTION (1 or 2 per student)

- Put on some music of Beethoven, and have students walk around with their “words”. When the music stops they discuss what their word might mean to the story. How it fits, and what might be happening. Play music again and have students move around. Do not stop at the same person twice. As they move to other students they have other clues to incorporate into their hypothesis.
- Have students place their post-it notes on the chart – where they think it fits.
- Read the story to the students and discuss.

2. Read the story to the students as an introduction to a mini unit on Beethoven.

- Listen to his music
- Watch the video – Beethoven Lives Upstairs

3. Language Expectations: Fact and opinion

- Read the story and pull out the facts
- Read the story again and pull out the author's opinion
- Do a mini study of Beethoven and at the end compose a paragraph of your opinion of Beethoven and why he lived in 39 apartments.