**Beethoven extended lesson and activities**

**grades 5/6**

1. Play Beethoven’s Symphony #5. Do you recognize this piece?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jv2WJMVPQi8>

1. Listen again and listen for the part of the music that repeats. The pattern is short, short, short, long. This repetitive pattern is called a *motif*.
2. This motif is actually a representation of fate knocking on Beethoven’s door. Watch the next video which is actually a graphic representation. Can you count how many times in total the motif occurs among all of the instruments?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRgXUFnfKIY>

\*activity- Gather 4 empty glasses or bottles. Fill the first glass with just some water, this will be your first 3 notes (short, short, short). Tap the glass gently with a spoon in order to hear the sound. Fill the next glass with more or less water in order to get the fourth note, the long sound. Fill the third and fourth glasses with water until you can play the whole motif on those four glasses. If you use bottles, do not tap with a spoon but blow across the top in order to create sound.

Materials-Youtube to listen and watch

4 glasses or bottles

National Music Standards-#4 Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines

#6 Listening to, analyzing, and describing music

#7 Evaluating music and music performances

**Beethoven**

Directions: Underline the words in the story as you find them, unscramble them and write them in the boxes below.

Ludwig van Beethoven was one of the world's greatest composers. He wrote many symphonies, overtures, and pieces for piano and other instruments. He started studying the piano and violin when he was 4 years old. His father, a singer, was his first teacher. His next teacher, Christian Neefe, was very patient with him and he began to do well. He wrote his first composition when he was 11. When he was 12, his teacher let him direct the orchestra part of the time. He moved to Vienna and studied with Joseph Haydn. He liked taking long walks during the day. During these walks he planned his music. He would make notes in a notebook. Then in the evening after dinner, he would write music from about 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. Beethoven began to lose his hearing when he was in his 20's. He became very suspicious of people and hard to get along with. But he was still able to hear the songs in his mind and write them down. He did not get along with his two brothers. When his brother Karl died, Beethoven took his 9 year-old son to raise. It was an unhappy time for the child and his uncle. The boy rebelled against him and caused him a lot of grief. In 1826 he caught a cold. It developed into pneumonia and he died. The world lost a great composer, but his music lives on today.

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