

“Lupin the Pot-Bellied Pig” for Woodwind Quintet and Narrator
Story and Music by Keith Amos

PRE-CONCERT STUDY GUIDE FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

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Contents include:

Lupin’s Story - (Pages 1-4)

Students can read about and illustrate the story of Lupin, the Pot-Bellied Pig.

“Theme and Variations”– (Pages 5-8)

Activities to introduce or reinforce the musical form “theme and variations” with young learners.



Links to info about pot-bellied pigs:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pot-bellied_pig

<http://exoticpets.about.com/cs/potbelliedpigs/a/pbpexpect.htm>

<http://www.dogbreedinfo.com/pets/potbelliedpig.htm>



Lupin, the Pot-Bellied Pig - Story and Music by Keith Amos

***Here is Lupin's story. The empty boxes at the bottoms of the pages are there for you to draw pictures in.
See if you can illustrate the story of Lupin!***

In a very secret place, on a very small island, Lupin, the Pot-Bellied Pig, lived a wonderful life. Mud and water. Water and mud. A bed of straw. A little wooden house. A little white-haired lady to provide her food. Perfect bliss.

Lupin was very happy, and quite often talked to the white-haired lady. Especially after Felicity (that was her name) gave her the nice food she liked. Everyday! Whatever the season: winter, spring, summer, autumn.

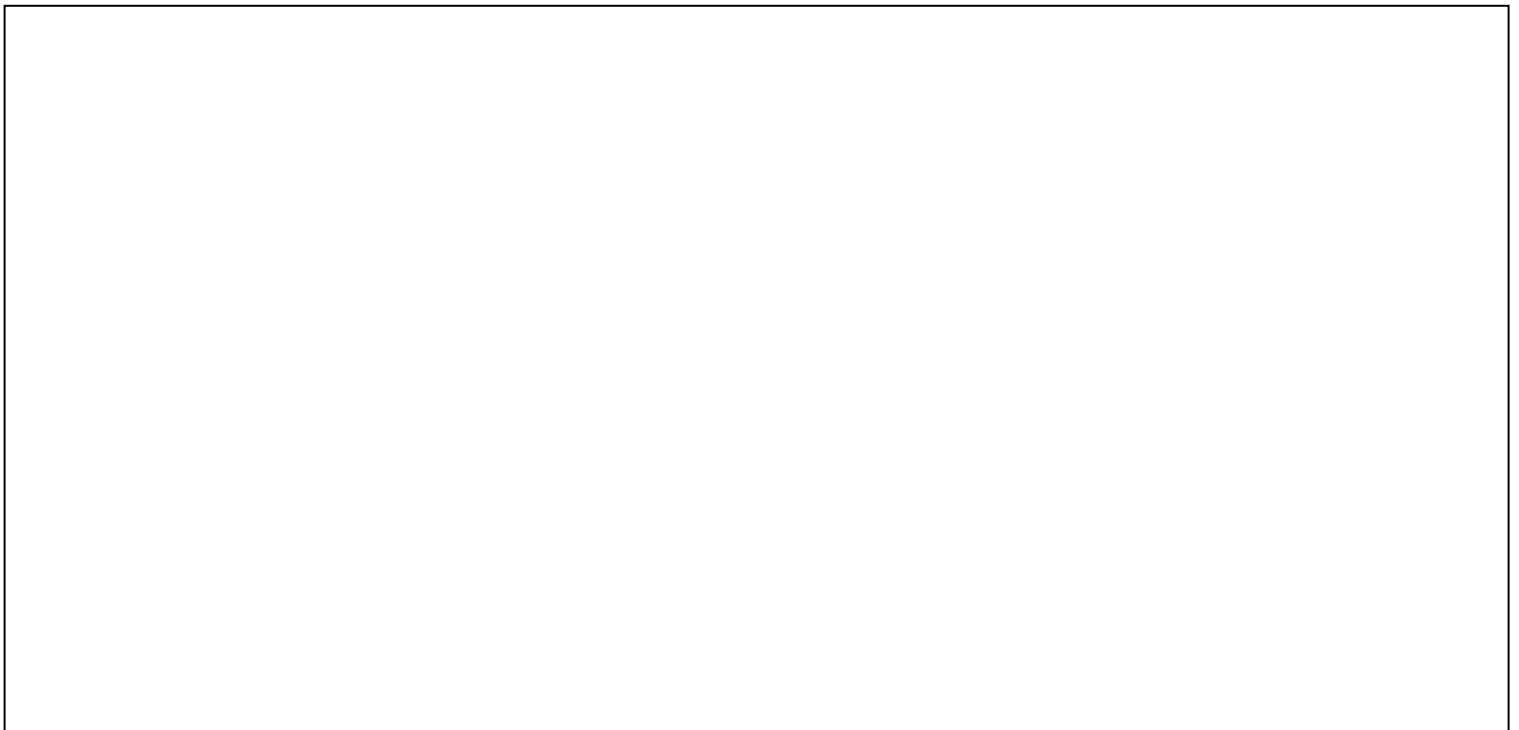
Felicity never forgot. Pig pellets were her special favorites. "Funny names these humans have for food," she thought.

"What a beautiful island this is," thought Lupin one very sunny, cloudless day. "I could lie here forever in this cool mudbath I've made for myself."

Although Felicity was very kind and fond of her pot-bellied pig, she hadn't made Lupin's mudbath. Lupin had done this herself, tipping the water bowl over and rolling in the squelching, muddy mud.

"I don't know," said Felicity, eyeing Lupin covered in mud, basking in the sun. "How do you expect me to keep your little wooden clean when all you do is roll in mud all day long?"

MUDDY MUD! MUDDY MUD! MUDDY MUD!, thought Lupin. But Felicity really didn't mind. She knew it kept Lupin cool throughout the summer heat.



The island of Sark, where Lupin lived, is rather remote and doesn't have many visitors. It remains beautiful, unspoiled and happy. Felicity had two friends who shared her love of Sark. She decided to invite them for a short holiday during the long, hot summer. They were enchanted. Especially Felicity introduced them to Lupin!

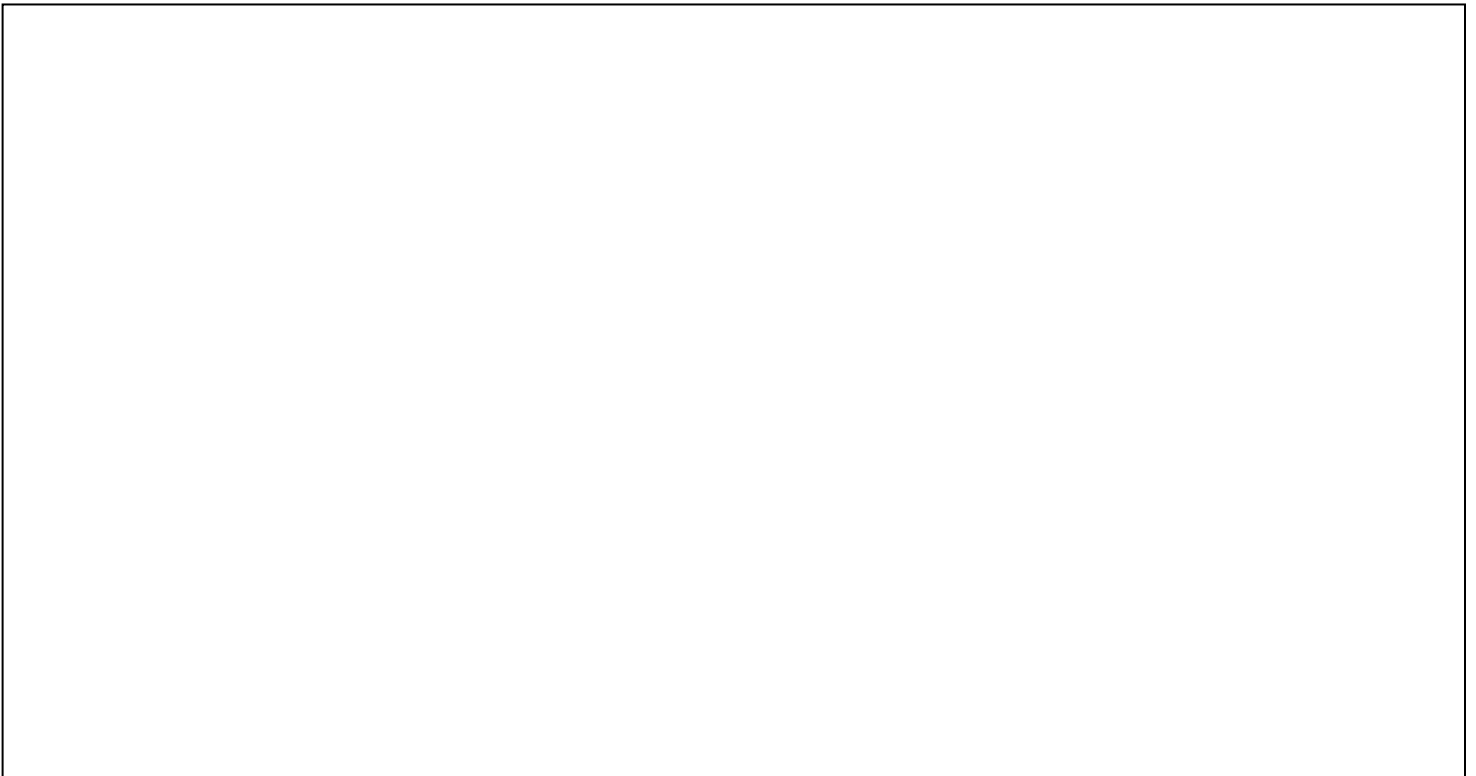
"Oink, oink, oink," snorted Lupin in greeting. The two friends were delighted. Felicity patted her muddy head and said, "This is Lupin. She's very dirty I'm afraid because she keeps rolling in her mud bath."

What a thing to say! "I'm only keeping cool," Lupin thought. "And she's rather fat too," Felicity continued, "So fat she can't lift her tummy off the ground."

"Well!" Lupin thought again, "if she will keep giving me those yummy pig pellets, what does she expect?" The three humans looked at her. She looked at them and grunted, "Oink, oink, oink!"

"She doesn't smell, does she?" one of Felicity's friends asked. "Cheek!" snorted Lupin. "Do you smell then? And what's that light flashing at me? Oh no! A camera. I'm *not* a pretty pig!"

But Felicity's friends had other ideas. They hadn't seen a pot-bellied pig before, and they thought she *was* a very pretty pig.



They took several photographs of Lupin. And even two of Lupin and Felicity together. What fun.

After supper, peace returned. The friends chatted quietly. Felicity came to see Lupin as she did every evening, patted her muddy head again and said, "Goodnight old thing. See you in the morning."

It was a lovely warm evening and Lupin sighed with contentment. Her two friends, Albert, a ginger tomcat and Henrietta, one of next door's scruffy chickens, came to see her. "Had a nice day, then?" Albert meowed.

"Made yourself look beautiful again I see," clucked Henrietta. Lupin just, well, smiled at them. Does a pot-bellied pig smile? Well, it doesn't matter.

Albert, Henrietta and Lupin meowed, clicked and grunted just like old friends. They had much to talk about. It had been a memorable day, with the visit of Felicity's friends.



As night fell, they all went to bed: Albert through the catflap into his basket, Henrietta through the hole in the chicken wire to her coop, and Lupin into her cozy little wooden house.

Nothing much happens on Sark, you see.

But Lupin, the pot-bellied pig, thought it was the best place on earth.

She dreamed of tomorrow's roll in the mud bath.

And the next day. And the next day....

And the next day.



THEME AND VARIATIONS

Activities for Younger Listeners

Theme and variations is a musical form in which the main idea (theme) is presented more than once throughout a piece or song. The first time, it is heard in its original form. Each time after that, it is heard in a way that is changed.

Here are a few activities for younger listeners that demonstrate this form.

VISUAL VARIATIONS

1. On a following page are four letters: T, V, ▼, and √. Shade the blocks that the letters are in with four different colors (one for each block). Mount them on color coordinated construction paper if you like. Cut them apart. Tell students the definition in bold (above) for theme and variations, and show each letter block to the students as you explain this musical form.

T – a theme is a main melody or tune. We would probably hear this tune at the beginning of a piece of music.

V – the theme is followed by the first variation. It's similar to the theme, but not exactly the same.

▼ – next we may hear another variation. It is different from the first variation, but we can still tell that it is based on the theme.

√ – another variation may come next as well, and so on.

LONDON BRIDGE VARIATIONS

2. Choose a familiar tune (i.e., "London Bridge"). Sing the song as it is usually heard. Then sing the same words and melody but sing the song in another meter, such as $\frac{3}{4}$ time. Sing the song a third time, with the correct words, but change the melody a little bit (turn it upside down). See the pdf "London Bridge Theme and Variations" that follows this page, for these examples. Invite the students to sing along with you after you've demonstrated each variation. Add some of your own variations to the tune instrumentally by playing it on piano or another instrument. Change all or some of the quarter notes to two eighth notes, for example, or play/sing the tune in a minor key. The students will catch on very quickly to this idea and will soon want to make recommendations for their own 'variations'!

MOZART'S "AH, VOUS DIRAI-JE MAMAN"

3. Find a recording of Mozart's "Twinkle" variations: "Ah, vous dirai-je maman," K. 265. Listen to the piece together as a class, while seated. Ask the students to stand up with you at the start of the first variation. Hop up and down at the start of the next variation. Raise your arms at the third variation. (You get the idea.) Or, choose different motions to make during each of the theme and variations.

LUPIN'S VARIATIONS

4. Teach the "Lupin's Song" to the children. You'll find the vocal sheet music for it contained in this study guide. Invite the children, with your guidance, to create their own variations on this theme. Tell them that when they hear the music and story of "Lupin, the Pot-Bellied Pig" in performance, they'll hear this theme right at the beginning. Then, they might notice parts in the music where the theme comes back, but is changed around slightly. Although there may be other music as well, they will certainly hear the variations on the Lupin theme throughout the performance.

T

V

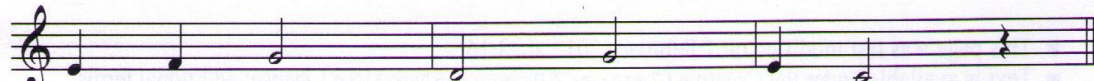
v

V

London Bridge

Theme

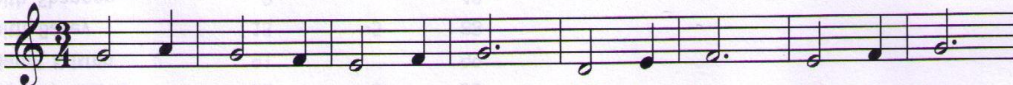
Voice 
Lon-don Bridge is fall ing down fall ing down fall ing down Lon don Bridge is

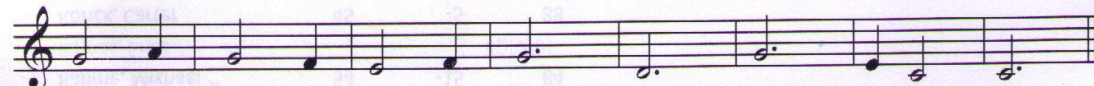


fall ing down my fair la dy.

London Bridge

Variation I


Voice 
Lon don Bridge is fall ing down fall ing down fall ing down

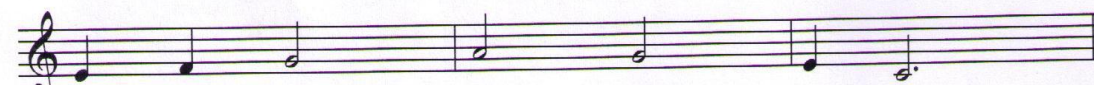


Lon don Bridge is fall ing down my fair la dy.

London Bridge

Variation II

Voice 
Lon don Bridge is fall ing down fall ing down fall ing down Lon don Bridge is



fall ing down my fair la dy.

Lupin's Song

Keith Amos

Soprano

This is the sto-ry of-a pot bell-ied pig Fat and so laz-y with her tum-my so

big Squelch ing ar ound her bath of mud all day long Creep up so qui et ly and

you will hear her song! Lu pin Lu pin Oink, oink, grunt, grunt,

yum my yum my yo! Lu pin Lu pin mud dy mud dy squelch squelch

ho! (Whistle) Whist les Fel ic it y as she brings her

tea (Whistle) There on that peace ful is land far out to

sea!