

Things to Do



1. Create a time line of the important events in Beethoven's life.
2. Research the career of Napoleon and, on a map of Europe, show the various countries he conquered, or tried to conquer.
3. Listen to a recording of Beethoven's music and explain to your classmates what is typically "Beethoven" about it.
4. Write an obituary for Beethoven.
5. If you had an opportunity to interview Beethoven, list five questions you would ask.
6. Listen to a piece of music from the Romantic era (not necessarily by Beethoven) and paint an abstract picture in watercolours while listening to the music. How has the music influenced your painting?
7. Choose an event in Beethoven's life and create a journal entry for it. Try to understand how Beethoven might have felt.
8. Choose an event from Beethoven's life and, with a small group of your classmates, create a tableau to illustrate it. Explain your tableau to the rest of the class.
9. Imagine you and two other classmates are making a movie about Beethoven's life. Pick an incident and write a scene that you will perform for your class.
10. Using a tape recorder and any sound effects you like, create a commercial to promote the NAC Orchestra. Play your commercial for your classmates.
11. Design a poster to promote the NAC Orchestra concerts. Display your poster in the classroom.
12. Design a poster to promote the Beethoven House in Bonn.
13. Listen to the audiotape or CD of *Beethoven Lives Upstairs* and write a review of it.
14. Read one of the books in the Resource Materials section of this publication. Explain to one of your classmates why he or she should also read it – or not.
15. Create an advertisement to sell one of Beethoven's pianos. Remember that they often did not have legs, that he pounded hard on the keys, and often spilled ink inside.
16. Choose another artist (visual artist, composer, author) who was a contemporary of Beethoven's. Research his or her life and give a report to your class.
17. Write about some aspect of Beethoven's life from the point of view of his piano.
18. Create a poster advertising a concert featuring Mälzel's musical chronometer.
19. Working with a small group of your classmates, compose a piece of music using only the most primitive of instruments: noises created by your voice, your hands, or your feet. Perform the piece for your class.
20. Organize an opportunity, along with your teacher or parents, for you and your classmates to attend a performance by a symphony orchestra.