

Beethoven

- i** Even now the phrase “**struggling musician**” is used to describe those who are sharing their music in **hopes** of becoming famous. Often musicians work many **jobs** and compose on the side until they are commissioned.

Let's warm up our hands and spell “musician”, “hope” and “famous”

- ?** When you think of the word struggle which one goes with it? easy or challenge

What is another example of a job? accountant or sleeper

- i** In Germany in **1770**, Ludwig van **Beethoven** was born. His father was a singer and intense **teacher**; often waking him in the **night** to practice into the morning. His compositions bridge the **Classical** period of music and the **Romantic** period.



Fold a piece of paper and tape the two ends to the table to demonstrate a bridge. Tear a paper for either side and write “Classical” on one end and “Romantic” on the other.

- ?** Would you prefer to practice in the middle of the night or in the afternoon?

What is a word the rhymes with night? bright or side

Which instrument sounds better to you? drums or piano

- i** Beethoven was a **talented** musician from a young age. He was one of the first to be able to make a **living** solely on composing his own music. Unfortunately, he started to **lose** his **hearing** at the age of **30**.

- ?** How did Beethoven make a living? eating or composing

Let's make two math sentences that equal 30. Which one? $3 + 30$ or $28 + 3$. (offer choices if needed, if not encourage student to make their own)

What word goes with talent? hamster or olympian

Open ended student: Name a talent.

- i** Despite his hearing **difficulties** he continued to compose. He **focused** on what he **could** hear in nature and everywhere he went. His most known accomplishments are his nine **symphonies**.

- ?** What did he do even while going deaf? read books or write music

Beethoven (continued)

 Tear 9 pieces of paper and tape them to the table, labeled 1-9. Have student point to one of the numbers on the number board then point to the same number on the table. Repeat a couple of times (exercise to work on table top visual tolerance and motor planning of pointing there also)

What character trait did Beethoven show by continuing his work despite his struggles? dishonesty or persistence

Open ended: What character trait would you like to be known for?

i At the **premiere** of his Ninth Symphony, he was **conducting** and completely **deaf**. When it ended someone turned him around to see the **applause** from the audience. He **wept** in response.

 Let's clap together 3 times. (Do with the student 2-3 times, then have them try immediately independently. Working on the skill of starting and stopping.)

? *What happened when he saw the audience? shouted or cried*

Why did he not hear the applause? deaf or hungry

Why do you think he continued to conduct even while deaf? happiness or pride

Open ended: What is an example of a time you have felt happy or proud?



Ludwig van Beethoven

