

BLOCK4
RECORDERS
PRESENT



IN A YELLOW MOOD

by Sílvia Lanao Aregay

About the piece

In this piece of music, we can hear the sounds of lots of different birds in the rainforest. There are so many different bird songs, all played by the four recorder players, that it sounds quite hectic sometimes. At some moments it seems like the birds might be arguing, and at other times it seems more like they're singing together, or maybe playing a very noisy game.

Listen

How do the recorders sound like birds in this piece? Can you hear how the different birds voices come together as the piece goes on?

The music is about the rainforest, but at the moment there is something missing... the rain! How do you think the rain in a rainforest would sound? Are there tiny, quiet droplets of rain, or are there noisy storms with big fat raindrops? Imagine the rain falling on the leaves of the trees, or on the damp ground, or splashing into a river.

If you can, use the internet to listen to how the rainforest sounds.



Explore

Now, try making some rain sounds yourself.

First, try using body percussion; you could pat your knees, or tap the tips of your fingers on your palm.

Next, try using some objects around your home; how about tapping your hands on a wooden table, or a cushion, or a floor with carpet?

Then, try using your breath and voice to sound like the wind and rain (wear a mask if you're in a group).

Practise

Practise making the sounds of the rainforest along with the piece of music. Pay attention to when the rainforest becomes louder, and when it is quieter, and try to match your volume with the recorders (or birds).

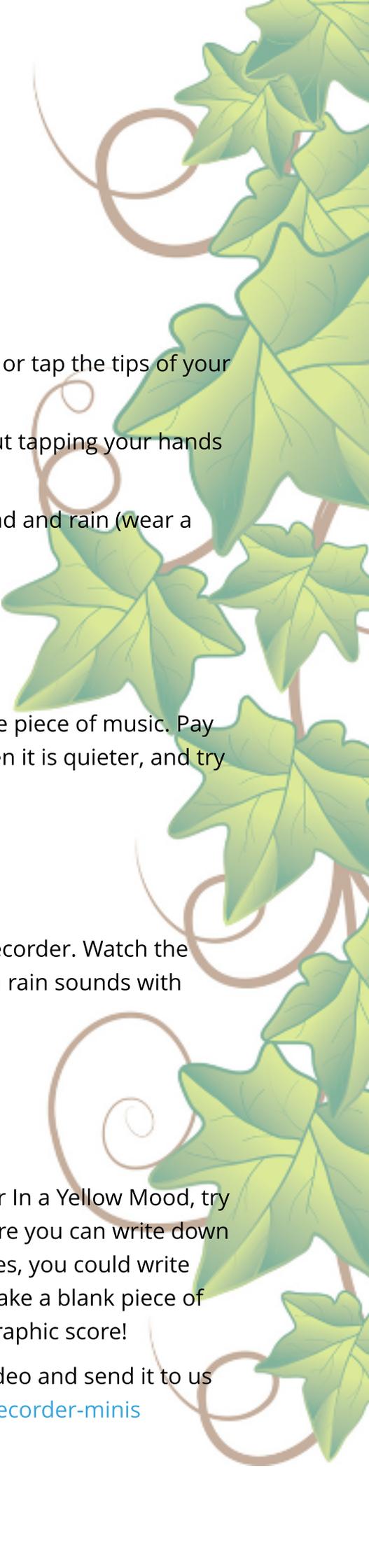


There are also lots of ways to sound like the rain using a recorder. Watch the video with Emily for some ideas, then try making your own rain sounds with your recorder. Any size of recorder will work!

What's next?

When you've come up with your own rainforest backing for In a Yellow Mood, try writing or drawing it. On page 3 there is a blank score where you can write down your musical ideas - but you don't have to write music notes, you could write shapes and symbols instead if you prefer. You could also take a blank piece of paper and use it to make an artwork which doubles as a graphic score!

If you play along with us, don't forget to take a photo or video and send it to us through the Recorder Minis webpage: www.block4.co.uk/recorder-minis



Practise with your recorder



Rainforest sounds

Use the space on this page to write or draw your ideas - or use a blank piece of paper and make an artwork that you could read as music too.

Eight blank musical staves, each with a treble clef on the left. The staves are arranged vertically down the page, providing space for students to write or draw their ideas.