

Composer Notes to Teachers

Greetings!

I've provided 2 different mixes of "Amazing Jellies (Council of the Sea Beings)" depending on your classroom needs. Each mix contains the same music, but the order of the movements is different.

In Mix 1, the music at the beginning (after the one minute introduction) is more exhilarated (Jellies Singing Hello). This is especially useful for gentle movement and sparking creativity in general.

In Mix 2, the music at the beginning is more soothing and mysterious (Jellies Swimming in Light). This is especially suitable for initiating quiet time activities (reading, writing, drawing, telling stories about the music, etc etc).

The total duration of the piece is 21 minutes. Some teachers like to play both mixes back to back - as a soothing backdrop for various activities.

The bonus track- Cochiti - is a piece of music that literally came to me in a dream after receiving a Medicine Drum from a Tewa Grandfather on the Cochiti Pueblo (New Mexico) a few years ago. The Drum is regarded as the Heartbeat

of All Good Things. The very Earth Herself has a heartbeat, and the Drum connects us to that. You could use this analogy with your students. For example, "just as many Native Americans believe that the Drum connects us all- what are some good things that you think we all have in common? What are some things that you think bring people together in a good way and help us to celebrate one another?" Also, it could be fun for the students to learn how traditional drums are made and then make one of their own with modified materials.

The music in Cochiti begins with a one minute brass chorale. Then you will hear an "animal call" (I say this in quotes because it's really a trumpet player who I directed to "sound like an animal". He did a really great job!) Then the Drums come in. Several people have actually looped this piece and played it for hours. It can have a very soothing effect!

Many children have loved to draw pictures to this music. In the "Notes from the Composer to All Students" page, I tell a little bit of the story behind Cochiti.

Enjoy!



Purchase your
Amazing Jellies
CD today!

The music is written in four movements (sections) - each one describing a different mood or "color." Each movement depicts a different aspect of the mystery and beauty of the ocean, and the jellies who live there.

The names of the different movements are:

- Jellies Singing Hello, Welcoming You to Their World
- Jellies Being Born
- Jellies Royalty of the Sea
- Jellies Swimming in Light