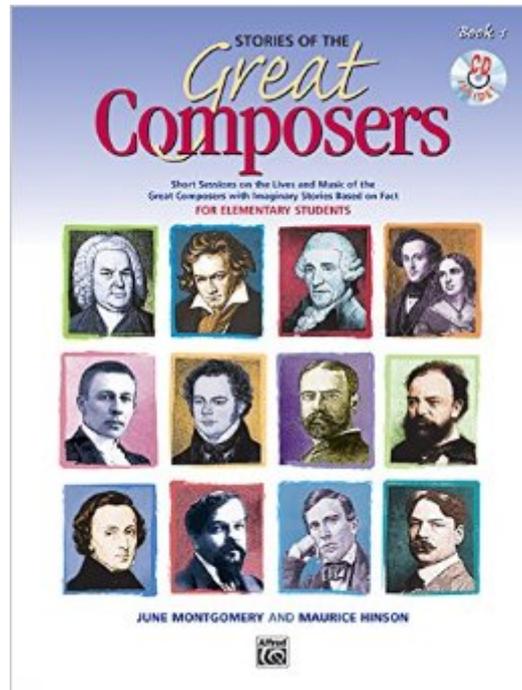


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# Stories Of The Great Composers: Book & CD (Learning Link)



## Synopsis

It is important that young students learn about the lives of the great composers who have enriched our lives with beautiful music. The 12 units in *Stories of the Great Composers* give elementary students a glimpse into each composer's life, character and music. Includes a CD recording of the suggested listening, featuring one composition by each composer.

## Book Information

Series: Learning Link

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #349,288 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #109 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies > Classical](#) #246 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Appreciation](#) #1185 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Classical](#)

## Customer Reviews

This is perfect for middle school children. The lessons are only a few pages and give fun information, basics and then they can listen to the music. We also go on youtube to listen to different pieces and to hear different instruments that are not so commonly used, which are also mentioned in the book. Such as the harpsichord, which my son is very interested in now.

The book provides a very basic introductory level summary of each composer including birthdate, place of birth and style of music. There is a simple activity such as a wordsearch included with each lesson. The accompanying CD provides one composition for each composer to illustrate their style. *Stories of the Great Composers* is a fun and easy way to meet some of the greats.

We are really enjoying this book. This is a great way to introduce your children to Great Composers of the ages! Each week, we are reading about one new composer and listening to the music piece

on the included CD. We are also using a free downloadable series by Thomas Tapper that you can find for free at Project Gutenberg. [...]

I looked at the Table of Contents and was surprised to see that the book does not include major composers like Handel, Mozart, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, and others. A book about the "great composers" cannot really live up to that title if it does not cover these major composers. Instead, I recommend "Meet the Great Composers" vols. 1 and 2 by June Montgomery and Maurice Hinson.

Did you know that Bach was more well-known as an organist than a composer in his lifetime? Did you know none of his compositions were discovered during his lifetime outside of the church where he worked? These and many other interesting facts are hidden in this book. Each composer's life story begins with his place of birth and the period of classical music he was born. Then the chapter continues with a brief biography of the composer. A short imaginary (but based on real facts) story about a day in the life of the composer keeps things interesting for the young readers. Finally, there is a 'mix-and-match' word game on the facts about that composer. The book also includes a CD with example of compositions (mostly the popular ones, not the ones that shows the unique style) from that composer. Overall this is a great introduction to classical composers for your young one, and sometimes for the parents as well. Alfred Music, a well known music related publisher, has a bunch of books that introduces classical music to the elementary students. This book is possibly the very first that young future classical music lover should be introduced to. Some areas of improvement for a later print: When introducing the composers, recall the book talked about the 'period of classical music' he was born in? But what are those periods of classical music? What was 'Baroque' and what was 'Classical' period? Also the example composition from the composer in the CD often seems to have been played on synthesizer, not a real instrument like organ or violin. I expected a better quality from Alfred. If you are worried about this aspect, play a real symphony-led piece after the CD example to your young one and let him/her find out the difference. Now, who discovered and introduced Bach's compositions to the world many after he passed away? Read this book and you will discover the answer.

Very good ingredient to a foundation in understanding and interpreting the three primary eras of "classical" music.

this is a very nice book. This can be used for someone who just wants to learn more about classical

music and great composers. We use it as part of our homeschool music curriculum. It has a nice CD that goes along with the book. My kids enjoy it. I would definitely recommend this to other homeschoolers or anyone who just wants to learn more about this subject.

This is a fun way for kids to get to know a little bit more about famous composers. I love that it comes with a CD of compositions from the composers that you can listen to during your studies. As an accomplished pianist myself who teaches piano lessons and homeschools, I love having this resource available to my students and my children.

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