

Benjamin Britten  
and  
Dynamics





Benjamin Britten was born in  
1913 in Suffolk, England.





His father was a dentist.

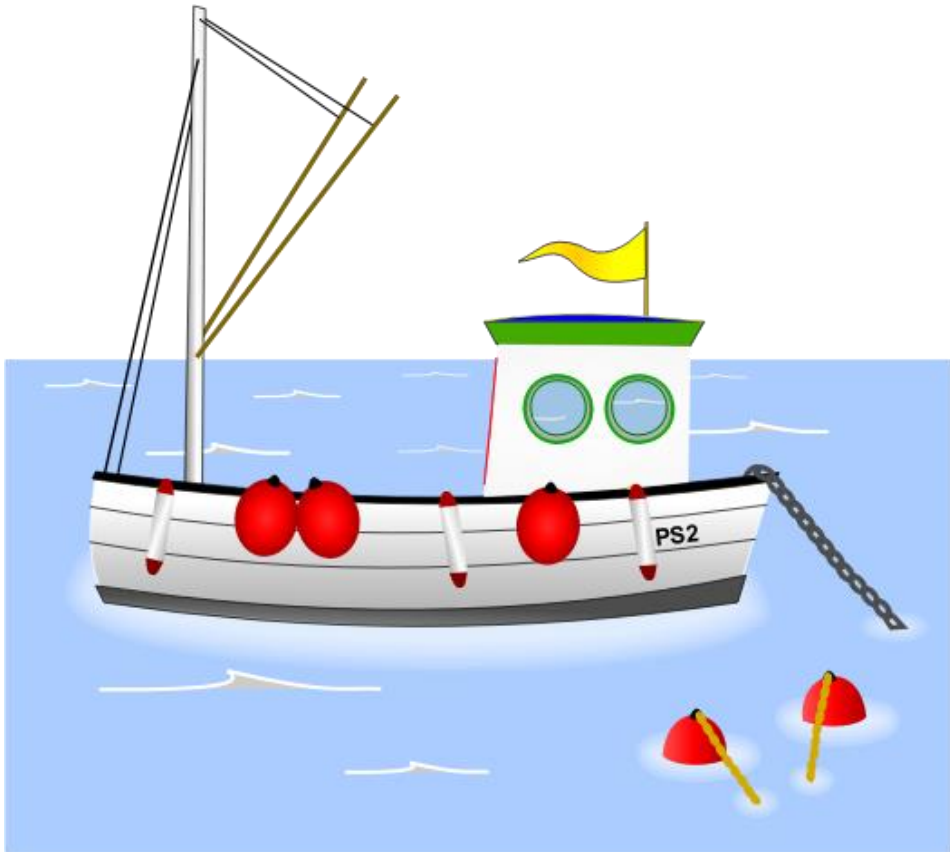


His mother was a piano teacher.



His mother encouraged him  
to play the piano and viola  
when he was young.

As a teenager, he travelled to **London** to have lessons at **The Royal College of Music** with a famous composer called Frank Bridge.



He wrote great music from the age of 17 but the piece that really made him famous was his opera, '**Peter Grimes**' which tells to sad story of a lonely fisherman at sea.

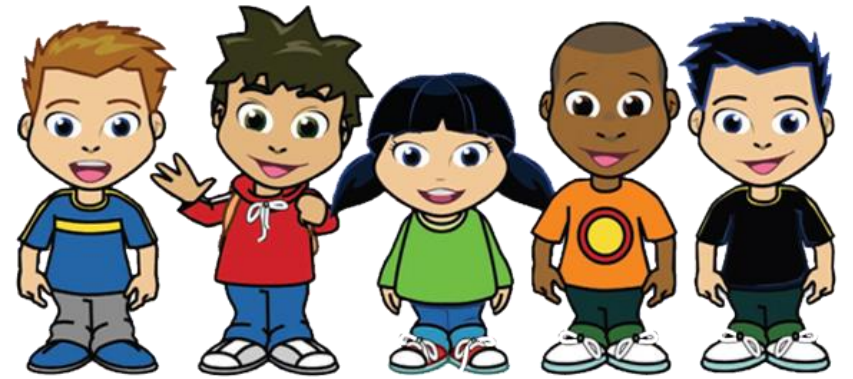
As well as writing operas, Britten also wrote music for:



plays



radio

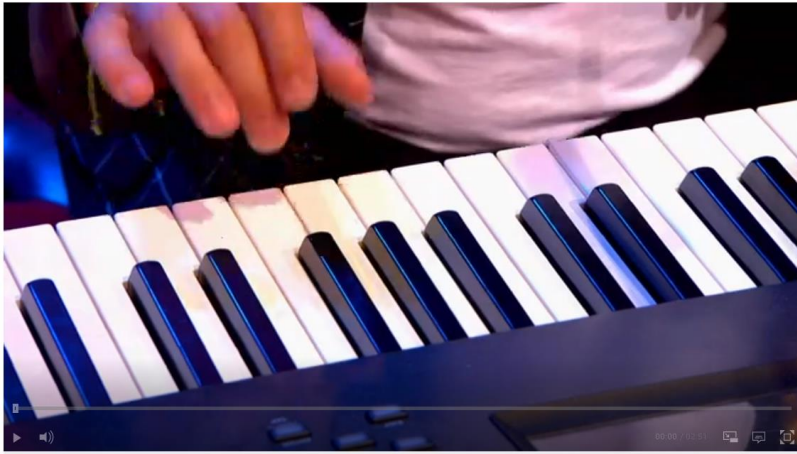


children (he wrote a  
guide to the orchestra)



Before you listen to 'Storm Interlude' by Britten, find out about DYNAMICS by watching the clips below:

KS1



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/bring-the-noise/primary-music-yolanda-brown-something-about-the-noise/z7drscw>

KS2



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcbkc/j6/articles/z3rcgdm>

Now watch the clip below. Leanne Dunstan and Sarah Rayson (from CBBC's 'The Dumping Ground') introduce 'Storm Interlude' by Britten. Listen carefully for the **dynamics**. How do they change throughout the music?



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02flv5p>

### Listening Task:

KS1: Can you draw a picture of the storm described by the music?

KS2: Draw a picture of the storm and respond to questions about the music. Download a worksheet here: <https://teach.files.bbci.co.uk/tenpieces/Dynamics-Worksheet.pdf>