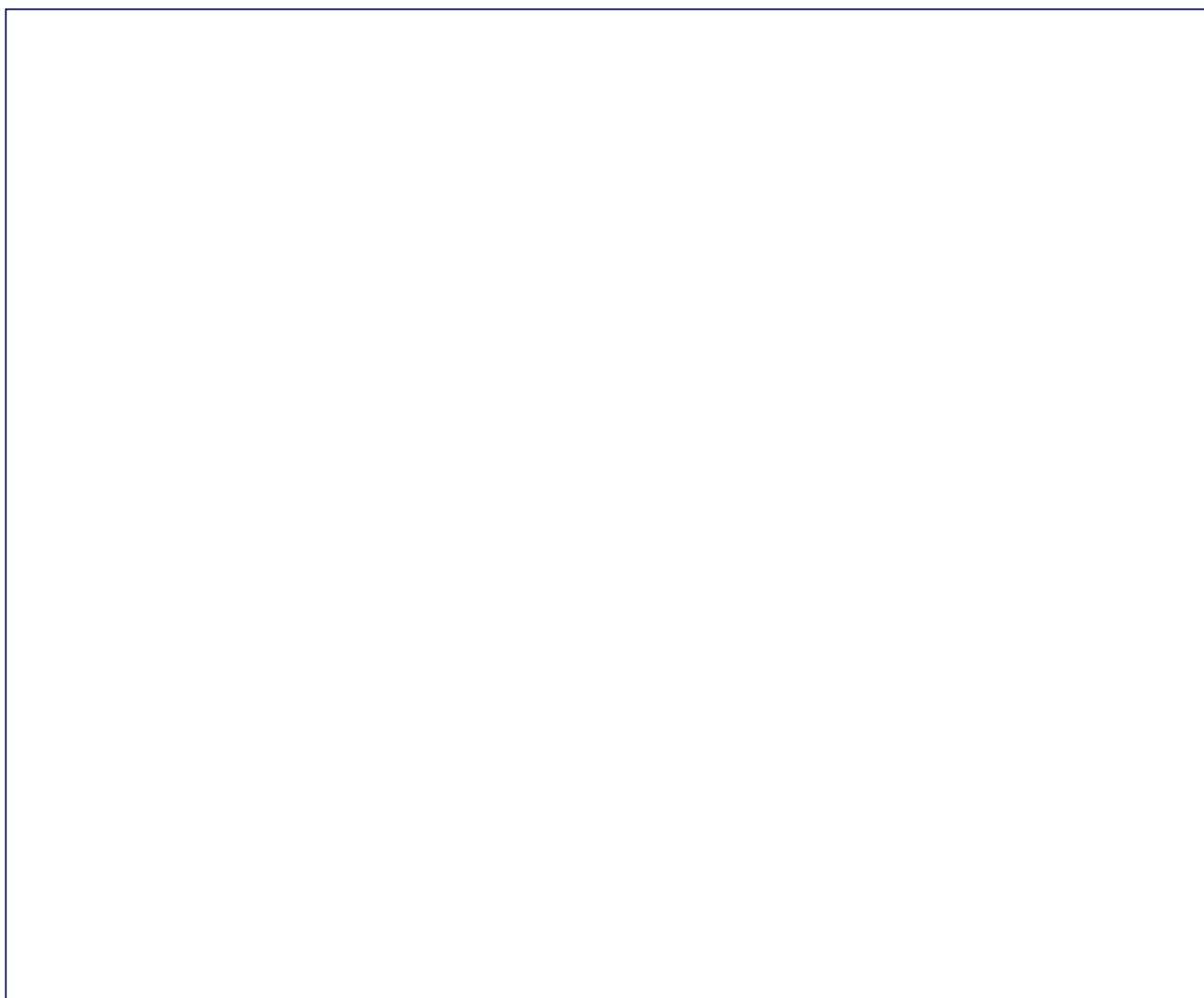


Max's Musical Dynamics Adventure

Learning objective: To understand and represent musical dynamics (volume) through visual art and labelling.

Max the monkey is putting on a musical show in the forest! Read the descriptions of the sounds below, draw the scene, and use your knowledge of dynamics to add the correct labels to your artwork.

Draw: Draw a forest concert scene featuring Max the monkey. In the centre, draw Max hitting a drum loudly. To the left, draw a small bird singing quietly on a branch. To the right, draw a group of animals starting to play instruments, showing a crescendo by drawing the animals getting physically larger or using 'sound waves' that grow bigger as they move across the page. Use bright colours for loud sounds and softer, muted colours for quiet sounds.



Label words: Forte (f) · Piano (p) · Crescendo · Diminuendo · Mezzo-forte (mf) · Mezzo-piano (mp)

Steps:

1. Max is playing a loud drum beat on a hollow log. Which Italian term should you write next to Max to show this is loud?
2. A tiny bird is singing very softly in the distance. Which term describes this quiet sound?
3. If a group of monkeys starts playing quietly and gets louder and louder, what is the musical term for this change?

4. Explain why a composer might choose to use a 'diminuendo' at the end of a forest song.
5. Look at your drawing. Where have you shown the loudest part of the forest? Describe the visual clues you used.