TUBBY THE TUBA

Music Composed by George Kleinsinger

Lyrics composed by Paul Tripp

Tubby the Tuba was composed as a song in 1945. In 1975 Tubby’s story was set to music and played by an orchestra.

Tubby is the most famous tuba in the world. Tubby is so famous he has his own website.

Click to discover the world of Tubby the Tuba
The Characters – Tubby the Tuba

The tuba is the largest instrument in the brass family and is the lowest sounding instrument of the orchestra.
The tuba is made of a metal called brass.

Listen to Andrew Cresci from the London Philharmonia Orchestra talk about the tuba.
CLOSE YOUR EYES AND **LISTEN:**

WHAT COLOUR DO YOU SEE WHEN YOU HEAR THE TUBA?

- BLACK
- YELLOW
- PURPLE
- BLUE
- ORANGE
- RED
- WHITE
- PINK
- GREEN
- GOLD
- MAROON

Add your own words and colours to describe the tuba

Tuba

FIND WORDS TO DESCRIBE THE SOUND OF THE TUBA.

- LOW
- HIGH
- DARK
- LIGHT
- MYSTERIOUS
- SCARY
- FUN
- BIRD
- ELEPHANT
- LION
- GOLD FISH
- SHARK
- MOUSE
- CHOCOLATE
- MELLOW
- BRIGHT
- FORREST
- BEACH
The Characters - Peepo the Piccolo

The piccolo is a member of the woodwind family and is the smallest and the highest sounding instrument in the orchestra.

The piccolo is half the size of a flute and is played the same way except that the sound is one octave higher than a flute.

Listen to Keith Bragg from the London Philharmonia Orchestra talk about the piccolo.
CLOSE YOUR EYES AND **LISTEN:**

WHAT COLOUR DO YOU SEE WHEN YOU HEAR THE TUBA?

BLACK
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PURPLE
BLUE
ORANGE
RED
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MAROON

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Compare the words and colours you gathered for the tuba and the piccolo. Are they the same or different?
The Characters – Bass Clarinet

The bass clarinet is a member of the woodwind family. It is a larger and lower sounding version of a clarinet. The body of the bass clarinet is made of wood while the bell is made of metal. The clarinet and bass clarinet uses a single reed in the mouthpiece. This vibrates to make the sound.

Listen to [Mark van de Wiel](#) from the London Philharmonia Orchestra talk about the clarinet.

Listen to [Laurent Ben Slimane](#) from the London Philharmonia Orchestra talk about the bass clarinet.
The Characters – Bull Frog the Bassoon

The bassoon is a member of the woodwind family. Like the tuba, the bassoon is the largest and lowest sounding instrument in its family.

The bassoon is made of wood. The sound is made with a mouthpiece made of two pieces of cane, called a double reed, which are tied together. They vibrate when air passes between the reeds.

Listen to Amy Harman from the London Philharmonia Orchestra talk about the bassoon.
Tubby’s melody

Low sounding instruments such as the bassoon, the trombone, the cello, the double bass and the tuba read music using the bass clef.

Name the first three notes that Tubby plays:

Bass clef
Solo – Tubby plays the melody all by himself.
Staccato – play short and detached
Mezzo forte $mf$ moderately loud
Tubby’s RHYTHMS

Clap and say the rhythms (with and without repeat).

Count the beats in each bar.

In two groups perform the rhythms at the same time and as question and answer.

Find the rhythms in Tubby’s melody.
Tubby’s RHYTHMS

Clap the rhythms (with and without repeat).

Count the beats in each bar.

In two groups perform the rhythms at the same time and as question and answer.

Find the rhythms in Tubby’s melody.
Tubby’s RHYTHM

Clap Tubby’s rhythm while keeping the beat.
Choose a percussion instrument that would suit Tubby and perform the rhythm.
Follow the shape of the melody as you clap Tubby’s rhythm.
The **Tubby the Tuba** song

Tubby the Tuba was originally a song and was recorded in 1945. Click the title to hear Danny Kaye song the song.

Sing along and listen to the tuba.

Then a friendly frog came by
And said, now Tubby don't you cry
Take my bullfrog serenade
And you'll be the star of the big parade.

Tubby sang the song so grand
Now he's leader of the band
He's as famous as can be
With Tubby the tuba's melody.

Then a friendly frog came by
And said, now Tubby don't you cry
Take my bullfrog serenade
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Tubby sang the song so grand
Now he's leader of the band
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Tubby the Tuba was originally a song and was recorded in 1945. Click the title to hear Danny Kaye song the song.

Sing along and listen to the tuba.

There once was a band, best in the land
Everybody said, oh my, they're grand
But oh, how they laughed when the tuba went by
With an oompah pah, - and a great - big – sigh.

Tubby the tuba, puffing away
Never had a tune to play
Always dreamed he'd sing a song
Instead of puffing all day long

With his oompah - oom pah pah, oom pah, oompah pah pah
Tubby said, oh gosh, oh gee, wish I had a melody
I'd be better off I know, if I didn't have to blow
This oompah, oom pah pah, oompah, oom pah pah