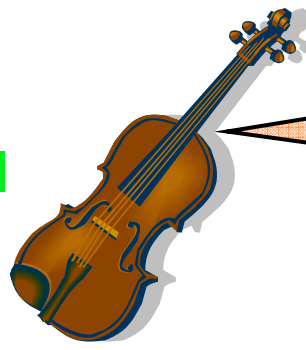


: SPOTLIGHT ON

The Violin



Click on this violin to hear its sound



During the next Family Musical Mornings concert, the **VIOLIN** is the featured instrument at the Scheherazade concert. Here is some information about this ever important member of the string family.

Click on this violin to learn even more!

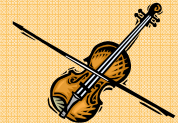


All About the Violin!

A violin is a wooden instrument on which there are 4 long strings (this is why it is in the String Family). The shape of a violin was first perfected in the 16th century – that's 500 years ago! The violin is placed on the left shoulder and held with the left hand. The fingers of the left hand are used to create different notes, or pitches, on the strings. The right hand of the player holds what looks like a stick, but it is really called a 'bow' (pronounced 'boe', like in 'bow tie'). The bow does have wood on it, but what makes the whole thing work is actually horse hair. Rosin (pronounced 'raw-sin'), which is hardened sap from trees, is applied to the horse hair. When the bow is drawn across the strings of the violin, a sound is produced.

Did you know...

The violin is the smallest of the string family and but there are more violin players in the symphony orchestra than any other instrument players. This is because there are two sections of violins – the sections are called "First Violin" and "Second Violin". To see a diagram of the orchestra, click on the little violin below...



FUN FACT: The String Family is made up of the following instruments, in order of their size: **Violin**, **Viola**, **Violoncello** (or Cello) and **String Bass** (also called Contrabass or Bass).

FUN FACT: There are other words for a violin, some in a different language, including: **fiddle**, **geige** (German, pronounced 'guy-ga'), **violon** (French), **violino** (Italian), and **keman** (Turkish).

Do not forget to write a question before the concert in the Musical Carnival! During the concert a **VIOLINIST** from the Pacific Symphony, will answer your questions!

