



# Trombone

**Age Range:** Elementary

**Learning Objective:** Students will identify the trombone by sight and sound.

## ENGAGE students

ASK. "What do you know about the trombone? What does it look like? What does it sound like? To which instrument family does it belong?"

## EXPLORE sounds

WATCH. "Learn a little about the trombone by watching [this video](#) featuring Minnesota Orchestra trombone player, R. Douglas Wright."

EXPLAIN. "The trombone is part of the brass family. It is used in many *genres*, or styles of music, including jazz! A famous trombone player called Trombone Shorty started playing when he was 4! [See a picture](#) of him playing early on!"

WATCH. [Watch a video](#) of Trombone Shorty playing at the White House. He plays a song that includes call and response. Try to echo his singing when that part comes up!

EXPLAIN. "The trombone is also part of the orchestra. Composer Gustav Mahler featured trombones in this short section of his second symphony. As you watch, see how many other instruments you can name. You might also pretend to play your air trombone along with the players in the video!"

WATCH. [Watch](#) the New York Philharmonic play part of Mahler's 2<sup>nd</sup> Symphony.

## EXTEND learning

*Choose one or more activities to extend learning.*

REVIEW. Check students' comprehension! Discuss or journal:

- To which instrument family does the trombone belong?
- How do trombone players make a sound on their instrument?
- How do trombone players change the pitch, or notes, that they play?
- How would you describe the sound of the trombone?

LEARN. Continue learning using the Class Notes lesson all about the [Brass Family!](#)