Composed and Performed by Emerson 4th Grade Classes

Classroom Cantatas

Emerson Elementary School

Our Cantata From the Loving Animal Groups

© Cantata Singers, 2010
Our Cantata from the Loving Animal Groups

written and performed by
Ms. Timas' bilingual fourth grade,
Ms Washington's music class,
Ralph Waldo Emerson Elementary School, Roxbury, Massachusetts
Winter/Spring 2010

Hurt No Living Thing
Turtle Time
The Ants Crawl
The Eel
Cardinal

The chosen texts for the 4 songs come from an anthology selected by Jack Prelutsky and illustrated by Meilo So, The Beauty of the Beast: Poems from the Animal Kingdom (New York: Alfred A. Knopf; Distributed by Random House, c1997). The varied rhythms, vivid images and unusual combinations of words and phrases gave the students the opportunity to be playful with language as they continued to develop literacy skills in their second language. The children prepared to compose songs about animals themselves. They also learned “The Caterpillar,” a song whose text by Christina Rossetti was set to music last year by the fourth grade at the Neighborhood House Charter School who studied with Boston composer, Andy Vores as part of Classroom Cantatas in that school. The Emerson 4th graders drew pictures inspired by the animals of their cantata and then, in their songs, re-created the unique and exquisite being of each creature.
Hurt no living thing

Hurt no living thing:
Ladybird, nor butterfly,
Nor moth with dusty wing,
Nor cricket chirping cheerily,
Nor grasshopper so light of leap,
Nor dancing gnat, nor beetle fat,
Nor harmless worms that creep.

Christina Rossetti
Turtle Time

Poem by Lilian Moore

My time is
slow time, old time, the unhurried time of turtles long ago.

Slowly \( \frac{d}{d} = 56 \)

Accel poco a poco

\( \frac{d}{d} = 48 \)

© 2010 Cantata Singers
Turtle Time

old time, the unhurried, the unhurried time of turtles long ago. My time is slow time, old time, the quicker

unhurried time of turtles long ago. My time is suh-suh-suh slow time.

my time is ooold time. Slowly, I make my way.
Slowly, I make my way. Why hurry? Why hurry?

Accel poco a poco

There was Turtle Time before there was people time.

Accel poco a poco

people time.
The Ants Crawl

Poem by Eleanor Schick

Music by Carlos Lopes, Gilson Pina, Daniel Pina Goncalves, Gabriela Pires, Tony Teixeira Aviz and Autino Vcente
Ms Washington's Music Class, Ms Timas' 4th grade
Ralph Waldo Emerson School, Roxbury, MA
with Emmanuel Espiritu, Cantata Singers Teaching Artist

Voice

Piano

over my arm and back into the grass again. Into the grass again.

They mean me no harm. Mean

© 2010 Cantata Singers
The Ants Crawl

me no harm. I am only a mountain to them. I am

only a mountain to them. The

Ants Crawl over my arm and back into the grass again.

Into the grass again.
The Eel

Poem by Robert S. Oliver

Music by Incida Alves, Carla DaCruz, Jovany DePina, Acssana Galvao, Saulo Mendes, Jaster Miranda and Alberto Pereira
Ms Washington's Music Class, Ms Timas' Bilingual 4th Grade
Ralph Waldo Emerson Elementary School, Roxbury, MA
with Kera M Washington, Integrated Arts Specialist

Lively! \( \text{\textit{d}} = 120 \)

Voice

The

Piano

feel Of an eel Is slip - slip - slip - per - y, Sli-

- my; He's sleek And he's black As a

© 2010 Cantata Singers
The Eel

pan pan-ther At night!

He sli-sli-slides Through your fin-gers

Rap id ly, Sly-ly; A

flip Of his tail And he slips Out of sight!
Cardinal

Poem by Barbara Juster Esbensen

Music by Francisca Barros, Erikson Gomes, Gilson DoSouto and Leila Rocha
Ms Washington's Music Class, Ms Timas' Bilingual 4th Grade
Ralph Waldo Emerson School, Roxbury, MA
with Nathan Troup, Cantata Singers Teaching Artist

Brightly

Voice

Fine

Red as a shout

Red as a shout

Fine

like a Chinese signature

on the clean white snow

© 2010 Cantata Singers
Cardinal

under the dark, dark, juniper tree in the park.

In the whole city—

pale and dusted with snow

only his wings are ablaze—

with poppies!

D.C. al Fine

D.C. al Fine