

Concerteenies



Perfectly Norman
Activity Pack

Perfectly Norman is written and illustrated by Tom Percival, and is published by Bloomsbury Children's Books.

This activity pack was written by **Polly Ives** and Cathy Bennett, and designed by Hannah Jones.

Thanks to the teachers at Arbourthorne, Pipworth and Wybourn Community Primary Schools, Grace Owen Nursery and Sheffield South East Learning Partnership who supported us in creating this pack.

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Introduction

Welcome to the Concerteenies Musical Stories project!

We have commissioned five new pieces of music, written by award-winning composer **Paul Rissmann** to be performed by **Polly Ives** (narrator) and five inspirational professional musicians. The pieces are based on existing books that will excite, engage and entertain children aged 2–6 years alongside their families, carers and teachers.

This activity pack accompanies the live and **online performances** of this book. It aims to give you ideas to explore the music, story and illustrations before and after you watch the Musical Story performance.

We really encourage you to read the book with your children before listening to the Musical Story. Buy it **here** or from your local bookshop.

We've made an **Intro Film** where you can learn the participation songs and actions and find out about the musical instrument in the story. We would love all of you (children and grown-ups) to join in and help us recreate the story!



Warm-Ups

Let's warm up our voices and bodies before we learn the songs.
Click [here](#) to watch the Intro Film – copy Cathy's actions!



Learn the Songs

There are some songs that we would love you to sing with us.
[Click here](#) to watch all of them on the intro film.

1. Perfectly Norman

♩ = 132

Per - fect - ly Nor - man. Per - fect - ly Nor - man.

2. So Unbearable

It's so unbearable. Unbearable

♩ = 102

It's so un - bear - a - ble. It's so un - bear - a - ble.
It's so un - bear - a - ble. Un - bear - a - ble, un - bear - a - ble.



Meet the Viola



In this story, the viola performs the music. In the **Intro Film**, you will meet Kimi Makino who demonstrates the viola.

Can you you design your own 'viola wings'? Would they be beautiful patterned wings like a butterfly? Or small fast ones like a bee? Maybe you could create your own type of wings?



Further Creative Learning Activities

After reading the book, discuss the story with your children, e.g.:

- 🕒 What do you think will change when you get older? (*Will you grow taller, grow a beard or grow some wings like Norman?!*)
- 🕒 Can you remember what colour Norman's uncomfortable coat was? (*yellow*)
- 🕒 How many children were flying at the end? (*nine*)
- 🕒 Lots of the illustrations in this book are in black and white, but can you point out which things are colourful on each page? Why do you think the illustrator did that?
- 🕒 If you could fly anywhere in the world, where would you go?



What Makes You Perfectly You?

- 🕒 Can you write or draw some of your favourite things? (your favourite colours, favourite people, favourite foods...) Now name some things that you're good at and things you find fun!
- 🕒 Play a Swap Game. You could play this standing in a big circle in the school playground (or adapt if you are at home). 'Swap places with someone if you have brown hair' (e.g. like strawberry ice-cream, have a brother, are wearing yellow socks, don't like heights). This is a great activity for celebrating everyone's similarities and differences.



How Would You Help Norman?

Norman has a difficult time through a lot of the story.

If Norman was your friend, can you think of advice you would give him at different points in the story?

- 🕒 What advice would you give when Norman first grows his wings?
- 🕒 What advice would you give when Norman decides to wear his coat all of the time?
- 🕒 How would you help him when the boy tries to pull Norman's coat off?
- 🕒 What would you say to Norman when he finally takes his coat off?



Further Listening

- 👂 Listen to 'Aviary' from 'Carnival of the Animals' by Camille Saint-Saëns. This music is about lots of birds flying around. Click [here](#) to watch the video. Imagine you have grown wings like Norman and are flying around, or you could get a toy to fly around the music. Imagine what you can see from high in the sky.
- 👂 Join Polly for this rhyme about birds. Home Activities: Two Little Dicky Birds and new lyrics! Click [here](#) to watch the video.
- 👂 Listen to the 'Flight of the Bumble Bee' as part of the Concerteenies 24-Hour Soundtrack. Click [here](#) to watch the video.



About Concerteenies

Concerteenies is an award-winning producer of musical events and activities for young children and their adults in Sheffield and beyond. We present concerts, creative music projects, and online events in early years settings (nurseries, schools, childminders), within the community (through venues and care homes), and at home, in addition to providing training and resources. Young children are at the heart of our work, with everything we do about bringing generations together to share, enjoy, and have fun through music.

To learn more and get in contact with us, visit our website,
www.concerteenies.com

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