Recommended Reading

The books below are a great introduction to the world of orchestral instruments. Expand your Schooltime: Meet the Orchestra learning with these books about the orchestra, musicians, instruments, and conductors.

Fiction: Stories About the Orchestra (Grades K-2)

This Magical, Musical Night
By Rhonda Gowler Greene
Illustrated by James Rey Sanchez

The Remarkable Farkle McBride PSO STAFF FAVORITE
By John Lithgow
Illustrated by C.F. Payne

Because
By Mo Willems
Illustrated by Amber Ren

Fiction: Instruments and Instrument Families (Grades K-2)

88 Instruments
By Chris Barton
Illustrated by Louis Thomas

Family Dynamics: Embrace Your Sound
By Courtney Vowell Woodward
Illustrated by Thu Vu

Fiction: Instruments and Instrument Families (Grades 2-4)

A is for Oboe: The Orchestra's Alphabet
By Lera Auerbach and Marilyn Nelson
Illustrated by Paul Hoppe

How to Build an Orchestra
By Mary Auld
Illustrated by Elisa Paganelli

Nonfiction: Sound Science (Grades 2-4)

The Science of Sound: Pitch, Volume, Music, and Noise
By Andi Diehn
Illustrated by Micah Rauch

Sound: Discovering the Vibrations We Hear PSO STAFF FAVORITE
By Olga Fadeeva
Illustrated by Olga Fadeeva

What are Sound Waves?
By Robin Johnson

Nonfiction: Instruments and the Orchestra (Grades 2-4)

Ada's Violin: The Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay
By Susan Hood
Illustrated by Sally Wern Comport

Orchestra PSO STAFF FAVORITE
By Avalon Nuovo
Illustrated by David Doran

Before Music PSO STAFF FAVORITE
By Annette Bay Pimental
Illustrated by Madison Safer

Listen: How Evelyn Glennie, a Deaf Girl, Changed Percussion
By Shannon Stocker
Illustrated by Devon Holzwarth