

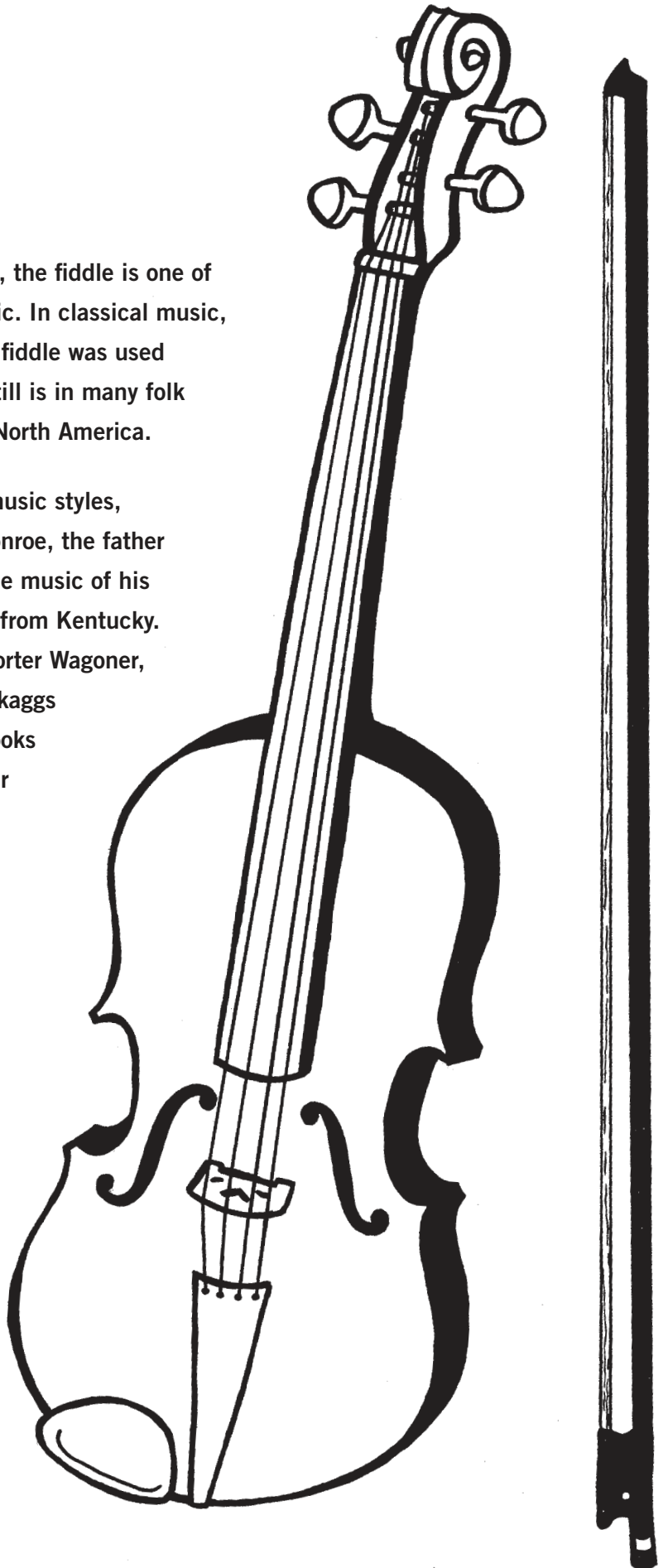
► **Fiddle**

HISTORY

Brought to America from the British Isles, the fiddle is one of the principal instruments in country music. In classical music, it is called a violin. In its early years, the fiddle was used primarily as a dance instrument, and it still is in many folk music traditions throughout Europe and North America.

The fiddle is the focus of many country music styles, like western swing and bluegrass. Bill Monroe, the father of bluegrass, was greatly influenced by the music of his uncle, who was a master old-time fiddler from Kentucky. Country artists such as Hank Williams, Porter Wagoner, Merle Haggard, Emmylou Harris, Ricky Skaggs (an expert fiddler himself), and Garth Brooks have featured fiddlers prominently in their touring bands and on their recordings.

Adapted from the Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum's *Encyclopedia of Country Music*, published by Oxford University Press.



Learn More About the Fiddle:

WEBSITES

Fiddle

The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum: CountryMusicHallofFame.org
The Library of Congress: memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/reed/hrabout.html#glossary

Violin

Nashville Symphony for Kids: NSOKids.org
Classics for Kids: ClassicsForKids.com
The Symphony: An Interactive Guide: Library.ThinkQuest.org/22673/

YOUTH LITERATURE

Fiddle

Rosie's Fiddle by Phyllis Root (Harper Collins, 1997)
Music Lessons for Alex by Caroline Arnold (Houghton Mifflin, 1985)
The Fiddler of the Northern Lights by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock (Dutton Juvenile, 1996)
The Case of the Fiddle Playing Fox by John Erickson (Puffin, 1998)
The Fiddle Ribbon by Margo Lemieux (Silver Burdett Press, 1996)
Fiddle Fever by Sharon Arms Doucet (Clarion Books, 2007)

Violin

The Bat Boy and His Violin by Gavin Curtis (Aladdin, 2001)
Yang the Youngest and his Terrible Ear by Lensey Namioka (Yearling, 1994)
The Sandy Bottom Orchestra by Garrison Keillor and Jenny Nilson (Hyperion, 1998)
Musical Instruments: From Flutes Carved of Bone, to Lutes, to Modern Electric Guitars (Scholastic, 1994)

ADULT LITERATURE

Fiddle

The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling by Charles Wolfe; Forward by Mark O'Connor
(Country Music Foundation Press, 1998)

RECORDINGS

Fiddle

American Fiddle Tunes (Library of Congress, 2000)

Violin

Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 61 by Ludwig van Beethoven (Itzhak Perlman, violin)
released on EMI Classics (1990)
Violin Sonatas No. 1, 2 and 3 by Johannes Brahms (Itzhak Perlman, violin; Vladimir Ashkenazy, piano)
released on EMI Classics (1999)



SUPPORTED BY:



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