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Under **Print Range**

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Robert Schumann

The Story of the Boy Who Made Pictures in Music

This book was made by

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Robert Schumann

The Story of the Boy Who Made Pictures in Music
Read these facts about Robert Schumann. Then, using your own words, write a story about him on pages 11 and 12.

1. Robert Schumann was born at Zwickau, in Saxony, Germany, on June 8th, 1810.

2. When Schumann was nine years old he heard the great pianist Ignaz Moscheles play and resolved to become a great pianist.

3. When Schumann was a youth he showed a gift for writing poetry.

4. Schumann's father was a successful bookseller.

5. All through his life Schumann was a great lover of the writings of the German author, Jean Paul (whose full name was Jean Paul Richter). Much of his music shows his high regard for this writer of fairy stories.

6. Schumann was twenty-one years old when he injured his hand and learned that due to the nature of the injury, he could not hope to be a pianist. It was then that he made up his mind to be a composer.

8. Robert and Clara Schumann had eight children, and some of Schumann's best music was written to interest his children.

9. Schumann died July 29th, 1856 in Bonn, Germany.

When Robert Schumann was a boy he used to amuse his friends by playing their pictures on the piano. He could make the music imitate the person.

One day he said to them: This is the way the farmer walks when he comes home singing from his work.

![The Happy Farmer](image)

One day you may be able to play a lot of pieces by Schumann that picture things so clearly that you can see them very plainly indeed. In one of his books there is a music picture of a boy riding a rocking horse.

Another of a little girl falling asleep.

* A March for Little Soldiers.

And then there are *Sitting by the Fireside*, *What they Sing in Church*, and a piece the first four notes of which spell the name of the composer Niels Gade, who was a good friend of Schumann's.
Robert Schumann did not become a lawyer. He studied music very hard. His teacher was Frederick Wieck. His teacher's daughter, Clara Wieck, played the piano very beautifully.

Papa Wieck, as he was called, was not very kind to Robert Schumann when the young man confessed that he and Clara loved one another and wished to marry.
Schumann Quiz

1. When and where was Schumann born? ________________________________________

2. Name at least two pieces for the piano composed by Schumann? ________________

3. What did he write when he was a little boy? ____________________________________

4. What great pianist did Robert hear when he was young that made him decide to be a musician? __________________________

5. With whom did Robert Schumann study the piano? _____________________________


7. Where did Schumann teach? _________________________________________________

8. When did Schumann die? ___________________________________________________
What do you think the parents of Robert Schumann wanted him to be when he was grown up?

A lawyer!

Robert was the youngest of five children, full of fun and up to all kinds of games. He went to school and became especially fond of reading plays.

He also loved to write little plays and to act them out on the stage that his Father had built for him in his room. So he and his companions could perform their plays in their own theatre.

All the while Robert was taking piano lessons.

Just before he entered high school Robert heard a pianist by the name of Ignaz Moscheles who played so beautifully that he made up his mind that he would become a musician.

There was lots of music making in the Schumann home, for Robert and all his companions liked to play and sang. And besides that, he composed music for them.

THE END

Turn the page to review interesting facts about Schumann and complete two fun activities.
But after a while it all turned out happily and they were married. So Clara Wieck became Clara Schumann.

Schumann is best known as a composer of music, although he was also a teacher, a conductor, and a writer. For many years he was the head of a musical newspaper, which is remembered to this day because of the great work he did in helping people to understand new music and find out about new composers.

When he was a very young man Schumann wanted to become a pianist, but unfortunately he injured his hand and he was never able to play well again.

Robert Schumann was a very hard worker and suffered a nervous breakdown in 1844. He asked to be sent to an asylum outside of Bonn.

Schumann died in the asylum on July 29th, 1856.

Clara Schumann lived forty years after her husband died. She was the teacher of many students, some of whom traveled from America to study with her. She, too, was a composer and a concert pianist who played in public from the time she was ten years old.
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