

# Hungarian Dance #5

Classics for Kids



**Johannes Brahms**  
 Born: May 7, 1833  
 Died: April 3, 1897

Johannes Brahms was a German composer. He learned music from his father, who played the double bass. When Brahms was young, he played the piano at inns and dance halls to pay for his music lessons and to help support his family.

As a composer, Brahms followed in the footsteps of Beethoven—although for a long time he didn't want to write a symphony because he was afraid his work would not be as good as Beethoven's.

When Johannes was older, he toured as an accompanist, playing piano for a Hungarian violinist. That music—and the gypsy bands Brahms heard later on when he traveled to Hungary—inspired his Hungarian dances, which were a hit with the public. He wrote 21 dances, the most famous of which is the "Hungarian Dance No. 5."

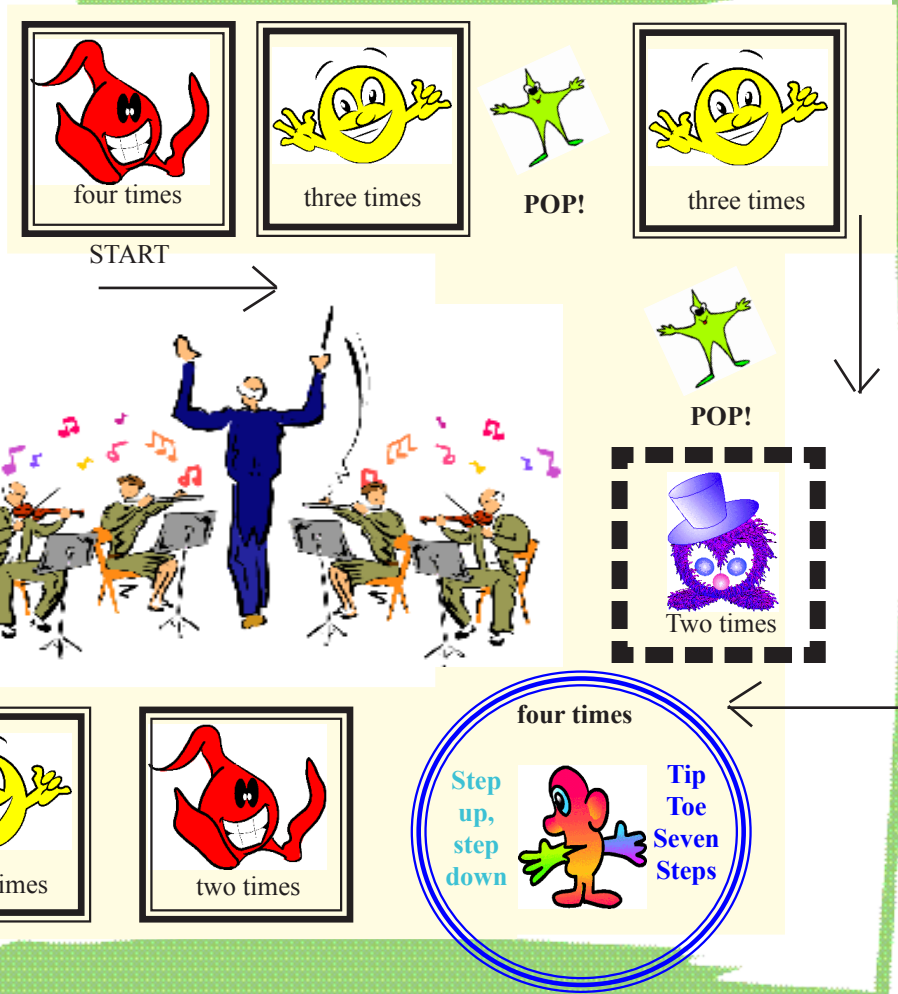
Brahms did end up writing four symphonies, plus works in every musical style except opera. You may know another one of his most famous pieces, the *Lullaby*.

In fact, Brahms became so famous, he is now known as one of the 3 B's—Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms—of classical music.



Johannes Brahms

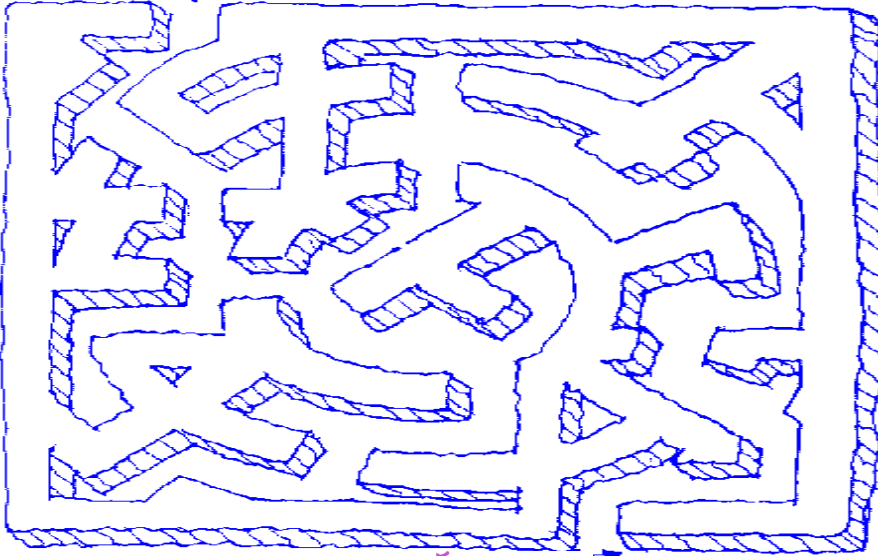
Follow along with this map as you listen to Brahms' *Hungarian Dance No. 5*.



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Can you get the trumpet to the  
band in time for the concert?



## Gotta Dance!

Unscramble the kind of  
dancing done in the pictures.



ULHA



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TYRCUON ILNE



PTA



## Where in Time?

1833: Johannes Brahms was born

1843: Skiing became a sport in the country of Norway

1862: Jean Foucault measures the speed of light

1865: The American Civil War ends with the surrender of the  
Confederate States of America to the Union

1884: Mark Twain writes *Huckleberry Finn*

1886: The Statue of Liberty is dedicated

1888: The "Kodak" box camera is invented by George Eastman

1889: Van Gogh paints *The Starry Night*

1892: Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* is first performed

1897: Johannes Brahms dies

Here's your chance to create your own piece  
of art for "Hungarian Dance #5."

Draw or write your own story about this piece.

Send yours to:

Classics for Kids  
c/o WGUC  
1223 Central Parkway  
Cincinnati, OH 45214



Or E-mail us at [mail@classicsforkids.com](mailto:mail@classicsforkids.com).



by Elizabeth King and Mary Ann Laing