

# ARMENIA FUN FACTS!



The pomegranate is the Armenian symbol of life.

Yerevan, the capital city, is one of the oldest cities in the world: 2850 years old!

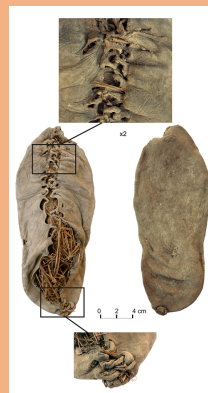


More Armenians live abroad (7 million) than in Armenia (3 million)!



Chess is a required subject in Armenian schools, just like math and nature sciences. That's why Armenia has the highest number of chessmasters per capita in the world!

The oldest shoe in the world was discovered in Armenia: 5,500 years old!



Armenians love apricots.  
The scientific Latin name is "apricotus armenius."



Armenia was the first country that adopted Christianity and is home to many beautiful, ancient cathedrals.

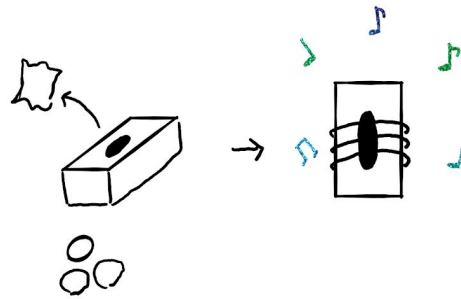
# "WHAT'S IN A QUARTET????"

## ACTIVITY SHEET



### Suggested Activities:

**For Younger Children:** Create your own stringed instrument! Take a Kleenex Box and 2 or 3 rubber bands. Carefully wrap the bands around the box so that they go across the opening on the top. Make sure all the bands run parallel to each other. Gently pluck the bands to make sounds! Experiment with a variety of box sizes to get different high and low pitches. If there's no opening on the top, carefully cut an oval on the top of any box.



**For Sheet Music Readers:** If you have four people in your family, try out some barbershop taglines. Each voice plays an important part in the overall group sound. While you sing, go between focusing your thoughts on your own voice to opening up your ears and listening to the group sound. <https://www.barbershoptags.com/>



**For Everyone:** Color in the drawings of clouds and string instruments at the end of this activity sheet, drawn just for you by the Aizuri Quartet members!

# Listening/Watch Party:

Listen to Conlon Nancarrow's String Quartet from AizuriKids Episode 1 [here](#). Although each instrument plays at different speeds, they do play the same notes, just in different pitch registers. The cello is the lowest, the viola is a little higher, then second violin, then first violin. Can you identify each instrument as they come in?



Watch and listen to [this song](#) by Hildegard von Bingen, a 12th century female composer. Sometimes the cello gets the melody, sometimes the violins or the viola, sometimes 2 instruments play the melody together, sometimes three. As you listen, identify which instrument has the main melody and talk about how the group sound changes depending on what combination of instruments are playing.

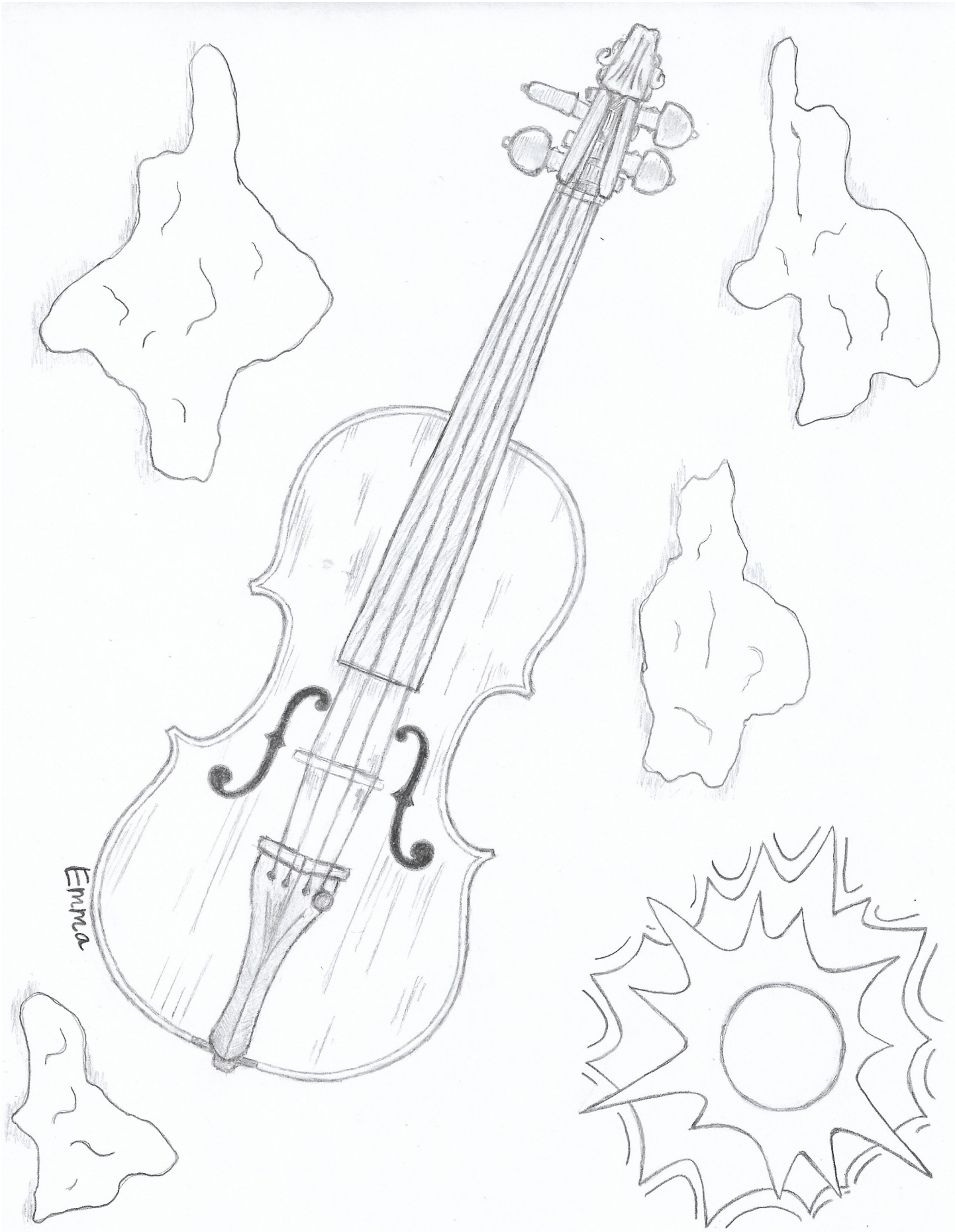
Here are some of our favorite string quartets playing our favorite pieces. What are some of the similarities and differences between each group? How do they sit? Many times, the violins both sit on the left, but some groups like to mix it up! How do they play? How do they sound? How do they communicate with each other?

[Brentano Quartet plays Beethoven](#)

[Parker Quartet plays Debussy](#)

[Attacca Quartet plays Caroline Shaw](#)





Emma



