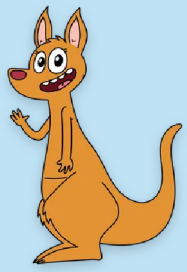
MUSIC THEORY · COMPOSERS · GRADES 3–5

Meet Florence Price

Read about a composer who made history with her first symphony, then answer the questions.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____



Florence Price was born in 1887 in Little Rock, Arkansas. Her mother was a music teacher and gave Florence her first piano lessons. Florence played in her first recital when she was four years old. After high school she studied piano and organ at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. Later she moved to Chicago. In 1933 the Chicago Symphony Orchestra played her Symphony No. 1 in E minor. It was the first time a major American orchestra performed a symphony written by a Black woman. Florence Price wrote more than 300 pieces, including symphonies, songs and piano music. She died in 1953.

True or false?

Florence Price was born in Arkansas.	**True**	**False**
Her father gave her her first piano lessons.	**True**	**False**
She studied music in Boston.	**True**	**False**
She wrote only three pieces of music.	**True**	**False**

Answer the questions.

Which orchestra played her Symphony No. 1 in 1933?

_____

Why was that concert an important first?

_____

What is something you would like to be the first to do?

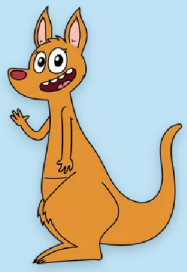
_____

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · COMPOSERS · GRADES 3–5

Answer Key: Meet Florence Price

Answers for grown-ups. Where kids write or draw their own ideas, the key shows one example.



Florence Price was born in 1887 in Little Rock, Arkansas. Her mother was a music teacher and gave Florence her first piano lessons. Florence played in her first recital when she was four years old. After high school she studied piano and organ at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. Later she moved to Chicago. In 1933 the Chicago Symphony Orchestra played her Symphony No. 1 in E minor. It was the first time a major American orchestra performed a symphony written by a Black woman. Florence Price wrote more than 300 pieces, including symphonies, songs and piano music. She died in 1953.

True or false?

Florence Price was born in Arkansas.	**True**	False
Her father gave her her first piano lessons.	True	**False**
She studied music in Boston.	**True**	False
She wrote only three pieces of music.	True	**False**

Answer the questions.

Which orchestra played her Symphony No. 1 in 1933?

the Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Why was that concert an important first?

A major American orchestra played a symphony by a Black woman.

What is something you would like to be the first to do?

Art © Kevin Coulston