## A MUSIC LESSON FOR FOURTH GRADERS

'Cello

HAVE you ever seen anyone play a violin? What did the player have in his right hand when he played? He had a bow. He held the violin up to his chin and drew the bow across the four strings.

There is another instrument which looks like a violin. It is called a viola.\* It is a little larger than a violin. The player holds the viola up to his chin and

Violin

Viola

draws the bow across the four strings just as the violin player does.

Another instrument with four strings is the 'cello.\* It is much larger than a violin. The player sits on a chair and places the 'cello on the floor between his knees. Then he draws the bow across the four strings.

The largest instrument of this family is double-bass. It is taller than a

man. The player stands up beside the doublebass, and draws the bow across the four strings.

In the picture on this page you can see which is the smallest and which is the largest of these instruments.

These instruments are called string instruments, because all of them have strings on them. They are very important instruments, especially when they are used in the orchestra.

The most important one is the violin. It can play very beautiful music.

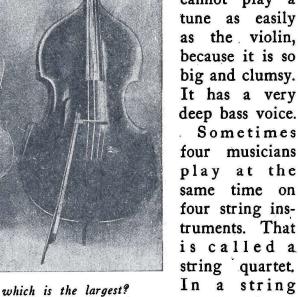
The 'cello is also a very good instru-Sometimes it has a deep bass

Double-bass

voice. It can play very beautiful music also.

The doublebass is the grandfather of them all. It cannot play a tune as easily as the violin, because it is so big and clumsy. It has a very deep bass voice.

four musicians play at the same time on four string instruments. That is called a string quartet. In a string quartet there



Which is the smallest and which is the largest?

are two violins, a viola, and a 'cello.

You will be interested in a few facts The older about these instruments. they are, the better tone they produce. They are among the most costly instruments in the world. For instance, the violin that Ernesto Vallejo, the foremost Filipino violinist, uses in concerts cost ₱20,000.

<sup>\*</sup> Viola is pronounced vee-o-la and 'cello is pronounced chel-o.