

# The Bassoon

The bassoon is a member of the woodwind family. The name "bassoon" is defined as a "bundle of sticks." It is a large instrument with a mouthpiece called a "double reed." The double reed is made from two pieces of wood, which are wrapped together with silk thread. In the orchestra a bassoon player sometimes plays a bigger sized bassoon called the contra-bassoon. The contra bassoon can produce the lowest sounds in the entire orchestra. There are usually several bassoons in a large symphony orchestra.

1. What does the word "bassoon" mean? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What do we call the mouthpiece of the bassoon? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What do we call the bassoon that can produce the lowest sound in the entire orchestra? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Do you think the contra-bassoon is bigger or smaller than the regular bassoon? \_\_\_\_\_

