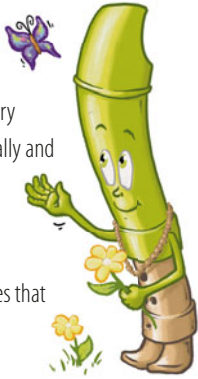
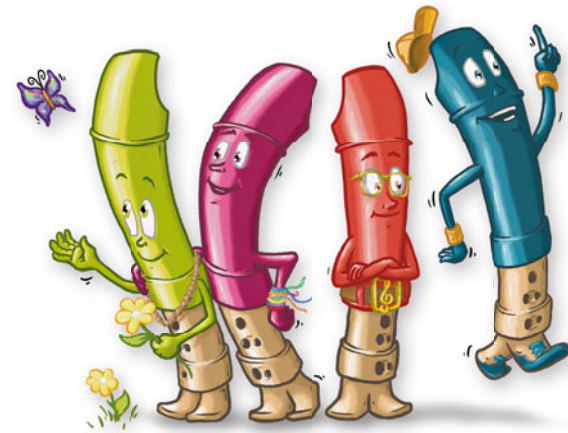


Leregunde, often called **Lere**, is the apple-green recorder. She is very interested in nature, thinks practically and analytically, but is sometimes a bit overzealous and could certainly come across as a little know-it-all. Lere loves the bright and clear tones that float through the air like birdsong.



The berry-coloured Teredello, nicknamed **Tere**, has a great deal of imagination and empathy. He sometimes gets from the hundredth to the thousandth, and his thoughtfulness often takes a little time. For Tere, the deepest tones sound the most beautiful, with their quietness so wonderfully inviting to dream.



Fipple

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Degedus, or simply **Dege**: the sea-blue, extremely agile and fast recorder speedster. He has lots of inspiration and ideas that are sometimes a bit cocky. Dege has a talent for movement, and sitting still soon bores him. He loves the fast melodies that fly up and down and sound like a lively brook.



Digidora, also called **Digi**, is the impulsive, orange recorder who sometimes sulks and can also be short-tempered, but is always a reliable friend and often proves her courage at the right time. Digi loves tones and melodies that have a clear beginning and end.

The Fipples – How it all began

An old man with a crumpled, pointed hat and a wrinkled cloak stands in front of the shelf with many new, beautiful recorders. He looks around, his gaze searching the entire shelf. Unerringly, he selects the four fipples from among the many recorders: the apple-green Leregunde, the berry-coloured Teredello, the sea-blue Degedus and the orange Digidora. “Yes,” he murmurs into his beard, “yes, that could work.” And he carefully takes the four colourful recorder-friends off the shelf. Then he looks at the Fipples with a kindly expression and politely introduces himself. “Good day! I am the magician Intonatius, and I urgently need your help”. Leregunde, Teredello, Degedus and Digidora look at the magician in amazement. Finally, Lere gathers all her courage and asks: “You need our help? Why? And how can we little Fipples help you?”



Intonatius is a friendly wizard with his heart in the right place. He sees the good side in everyone. He cannot part with old things at all, therefore some people say he is a collector. Intonatius is a true lover of music: whether loud and clear, quiet and dreamy, clear and bright, fast or slow – music always transports him into a special world and carries him away on a great journey.

So Intonatius begins to explain:

“Today I was going to clean my magic kitchen. I was just about to clean the window when I looked out into the garden and couldn’t believe my eyes. My beautiful old maple tree had lost all its leaves and its branches had gone all limp. A very sad sight! I was really desperate. Luckily, I remembered that I still have my great-grandmother’s old magic book in my cupboard. I actually found what I was looking for under the heading “Maple tree, withered and very sick.”

The magician Intonatius pulls a dusty book from under his cloak and opens it awkwardly. He begins to turn the yellowed pages looking for something.

“There it is,” he says a little later and reads out: “When a maple tree loses its leaves suddenly and without cause, and all the branches just droop sadly, you have to be quick. You can save the tree with a magic potion of sounds. To do this, let some recorders play the following



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Fipple online



sounds into the cauldron: the chirping of a forest bird, the call of an owl, the crowing of a rooster and the wailing of a siren. Once the sounds are in the magic cauldron, add another liter of Magic Water and a pinch of Magic Power. While stirring, say the words:

“Maple tree, maple tree
dream a little dream!
Green leaves will sprout anew,
gentle rain will water you.
Hocus pocus Fipple tone
look, new leaves have grown!”



Afterwards, for this magic spell to work it must also be whispered in recorder language. “Can you help me with that?”, Intonatus asks the Fipples. “I’m sure you know the recorder language better than I do.” “Yes, of course!” the four Fipples shout, and the clever Leregunde confirms: “Our recorder body is also made of maple. We’d really love to help!” “I can do the siren!” Degedus shouts immediately and starts to howl loudly. Digidora decides on the rooster and starts crowing right away. Intonatus covers his ears. “Shush!” he calls. “I’m not ready yet! Or do you see a magic cauldron anywhere?”

A little embarrassed, Dege and Digi fall silent again and let the magician explain how to proceed. “I’ve got a magic recorder case here that works a bit like a magic carpet. All you have to do is sit on it and fly after me. Come on, get on and follow me!”

No sooner said than done! Wizard Intonatus mounts his broomstick and flies ahead. The four Fipples race after him in their Recordomobile.

“Cool! I’ve never moved so fast!” exclaims Dege enthusiastically.

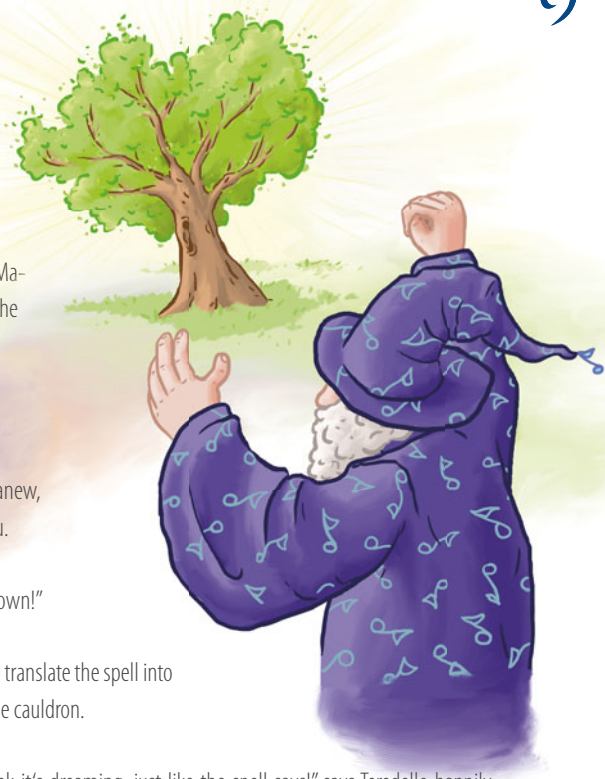
A short while later they actually land in the magician’s garden. Teredello runs straight to the sick tree to comfort it. It really looks very sad, with its bare, drooping branches. “Everything will be fine!” Tere whispers to the tree caringly. Now, preparing the magic potion can begin. The magic cauldron is ready and the fire is already crackling merrily. Now the sounds can be added.

Do you remember what goes into the cauldron? Play the matching sounds on your recorder!

Leregunde is the first and bravely crows into the cauldron, but Digidora is furious when she hears that.

“I wanted to crow, I’ve already practised that!”, she scolds and stamps her foot. Reluctantly, she allows herself to be persuaded by Intonatus to chirp into the cauldron like a forest bird. Then Dege howls his eerie siren sounds into the cauldron, and Tere ‘owls’ as best he can. Intonatus adds another liter of Magic Water and a pinch of Magic Power, stirs vigorously, and then they speak the magic spell together:

“Maple tree, maple tree
dream a little dream!
Green leaves will sprout anew,
gentle rain will water you.
Hocus pocus Fipple tone
look, new leaves have grown!”



And of course it’s child’s play for the four Fipples to translate the spell into the language of the recorder and whisper it into the cauldron.

Can you do that too? Try it!

The maple tree shivers gently in the wind. “I think it’s dreaming, just like the spell says!” says Teredello happily. A gentle drizzle begins to fall onto the tree and, lo and behold, the branches stretch and stretch, and new green leaves begin to sprout. Hooray, the tree is healthy again!

“Oh, thank you, dear Fipples!” shouts Intonatus. “You’ve been a great help to us! I’m so happy that the maple tree is doing well again!

“You’re welcome”, smile the Fipples. They are also happy that everything went so smoothly. And Degedus quickly calls out: “Dear Mr. Magician Intonatus, if you ever need our help again, we’ll be happy to embark on new adventures! Isn’t that right, friends?”

Fipple Song

Sheet music for the Fipple Song, including a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written on a staff with notes and rests. Chords are indicated above the staff: D, G, D, G, D, G, D, G. The lyrics are written below the staff.

Di - gi - do - ra, Le - re - gun - de, Te - re - del - lo, De - ge - dus,
the four Fipp - les, they are rea - dy, if some help is ob - vi - ous!

Sheet music for the Fipple Song is also available online for two parts and with piano accompaniment.