**Miss Minto’s Musical Moment Number 36 – Balalaika Player aged 7**

<https://youtu.be/QJjSEGOOOcc>

**Anastasia Tyurina** (aged 7) playing Balalaika.

The tune is a **Russian Folk Song** called **‘Valenki’.**

Valenki are very warm, traditional Russian boots made of felt.

Not only is Anastasia amazingly talented at playing the balalaika,

she is clearly loving every moment of her playing.

**BALALAIKA**

The **balalaika** is a string instrument from [Russia](https://wiki.kidzsearch.com/wiki/Russia).

The Balalaika family includes the **piccolo balalaika**, **prima balalaika, sekunda balalaika, alto balalaika, bass balalaika** and **contrabass balalaika**.

They all have three strings.

There are many ways to tune balalaika; the most common tuning is **E-E-A**.



**Contrabass Balalaika**

Notice the little spike that the balalaika is resting on – too big and bulky for the player to hold up.

<https://youtu.be/PFq-6A3lEsY>

**The Balalaika Osipov Russian Folk Orchestra** playing the same piece as Anastasia played.