Questions:

1. What part does sound play in the lives of animals?

2. Which sounds are most appealing to you?

3. Which sounds of nature are the easiest to simulate?

4. If you had to use an environmental sound to communicate all of the time, which one would you choose? Why?

Extensions:

1. Perform the symphony at a parent-teacher night.
2. Take the Estuary Symphony to a classroom in the lower grades and teach the students about the estuary, performing the symphony with them!
3. Using the poem The Basin Blues, (Page 58), have students put natural rhythmic sounds together with the words. Produce sounds from sticks, seed pods, gourds, grasses or branches of tree leaves.

ACTIVITY: Magical Images of the Estuary

The estuary is truly a magical place. Bring the magic to life by capturing it with a magic “eye”!

Materials:

- Polaroid cameras
- Film
- “Magical Images of the Estuary” handout, page 70.

Process:

1. Choose a local wetland area to visit.
2. Distribute copies of the “Magical Images of the Estuary” handout.
3. Brainstorm a list of picture-taking hints with your students.

**Examples include:**
- Always take pictures with the light behind you; do not face the sun!
- Choose a center of interest for the picture.
- Look for interesting textures, lines, color and form.
- Try getting real close! (Use common sense with animals.)
- Show the size and scale of an object by placing a common object that everyone can identify (such as a coin) in the photo composition.

4. Discuss with students possible subjects for their photo journals or photo essays.

**Examples include:**
- Animals, birds, or grasses and plants in the estuary;
- Producers, consumers, and decomposers in the food chain;
- Elements of the water cycle, and
- A “tour” through the estuary!

5. Design a book of estuary photos using a specific theme with text blocks identifying, describing, and telling stories about the pictures.

6. Have an exhibit of all photo journals and photo essays!

**Extension:**

*Exhibit photo journal and photo essays at a school function or in an elementary school classroom.*