

# DENES AGAY'S LEARNING TO PLAY PIANO

The classic children's introduction to piano in a brand new edition!

## BOOK 1 GETTING STARTED!

COMPLETE WITH  
FUN STICKERS



[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



# 1

# MIDDLE C ON THE STAVE

**Middle C** is on a line of its own between the two staves.



When played by the right hand, **Middle C** is written closer to the **treble stave**, just below the first line.



When played by the left hand, **Middle C** is written closer to the **bass stave**, just above the fifth line.

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Clap

Count 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2

## Practice Directions:

1. Clap your hands for every note, counting aloud the proper number of beats in each bar.
2. Play the notes and call out the letter names.
3. Play the notes and count aloud the beats in each bar.
4. Play the notes and sing the words.

**SKILL BUILDER:** Try playing other **Cs** with your third finger.



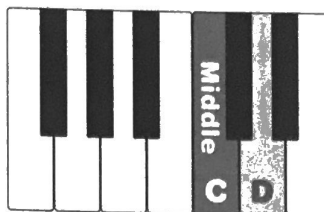
# NOTES AROUND MIDDLE C



In every piece:

- First, play and sing the letter names.
- Then play and count.

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

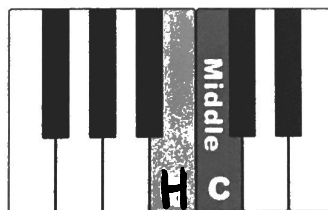


Right Hand



Count 1 2 1 2

Teacher



Left Hand



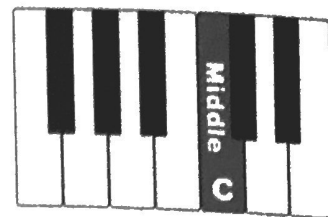
Count 1 2 1 2

Teacher

**SKILL BUILDER:** Play also with fingers 2-3-2 and 3-4-3. (Play with firm nail joints.)

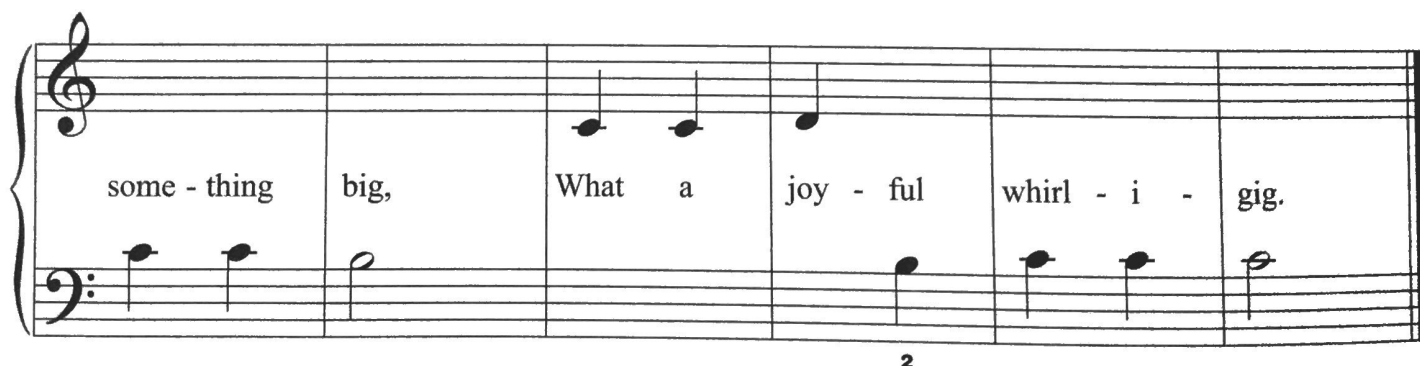
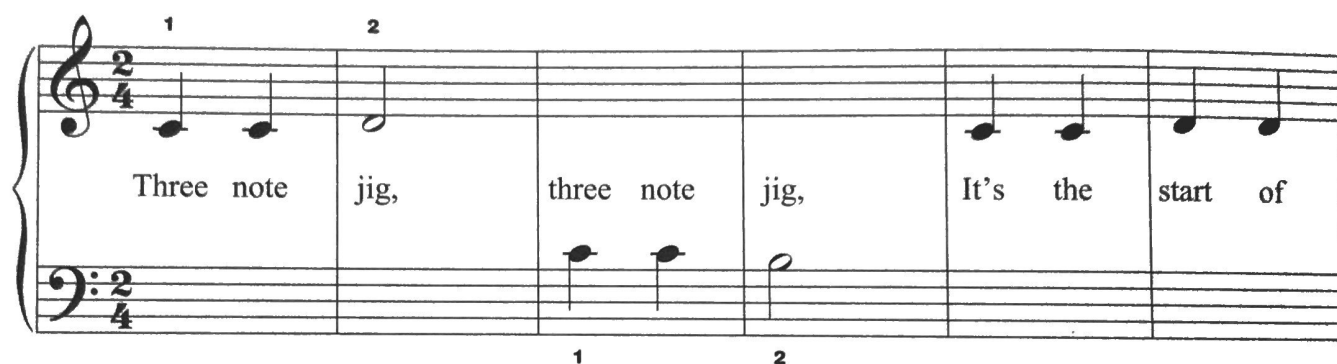
Play in other octaves.

Play other Bs and Ds all over the keyboard.



## Three-Note Jig

www.deseart.sk



### Teacher



Write your answers on the lines provided:

*True* 1. Going to the right on the keyboard, notes become higher.

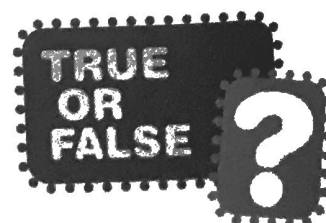
*True* 2. This is a **crotchet** which receives one count.

*True* 3. A **minim** receives two counts.

*False* 4. The white key between the two black keys is **E**.

*False* 5. The keys **B** and **C** are a step apart.

*False* 6. The time signature  $\frac{2}{4}$  means that there are four counts in each bar.





# INTERVALS

The distance between two notes or two keys is called an **interval**.

Intervals are measured and named according to the number of notes or keys involved.

In measuring intervals we count all the notes;

the two notes of the interval *and* the notes (white keys) between the two.

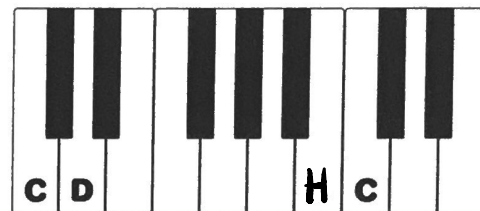


## THE 2ND (SECOND): LIKE A STEP



### ON THE KEYBOARD

A **2nd** is the distance from one white key to the next white key, up or down.



2nd

2nd

2nds going up

2nds going down



### ON THE STAVE

A **2nd** is the distance from a line to the next space, or from a space to the next line.

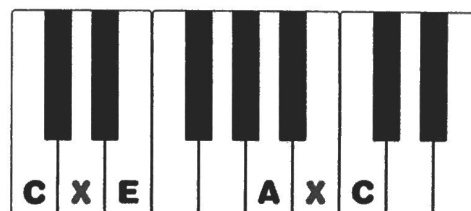
- Play **2nds** all over the keyboard with fingers 2-3 or 3-4.

## THE 3RD (THIRD): LIKE A SKIP



### ON THE KEYBOARD

A **3rd** is the distance between two white keys with one white key in between them.

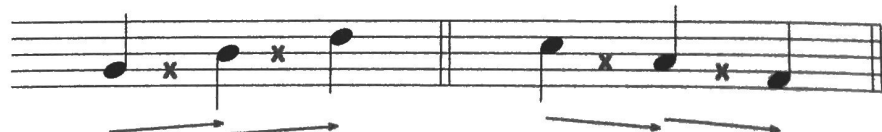


3rd

3rd

3rds going up

3rds going down



### ON THE STAVE

A **3rd** is the distance from a line to the next line, or from a space to the next space.

- Play **3rds** all over the keyboard with fingers 1-3, 2-4 and 3-5.

**SKILL BUILDER:** Close your eyes and play **2nds** and **3rds** with different finger combinations.

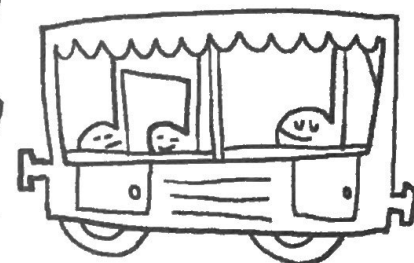
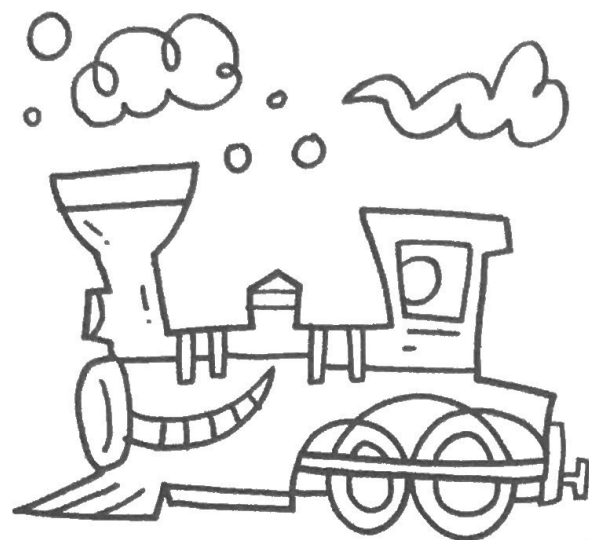
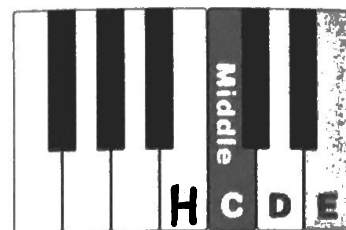
## NEW TIME SIGNATURE:

- Four counts to a Bar (measure).
- A Crotchet (quarter-note) gets one count.



## NEW NOTE:

E on the first line of the treble stave  
(a skip above Middle C)

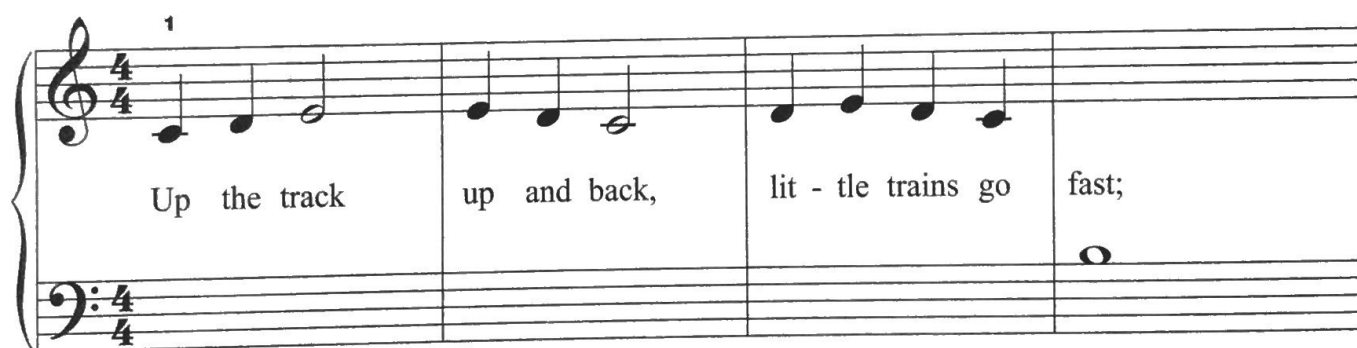


## My Model Train

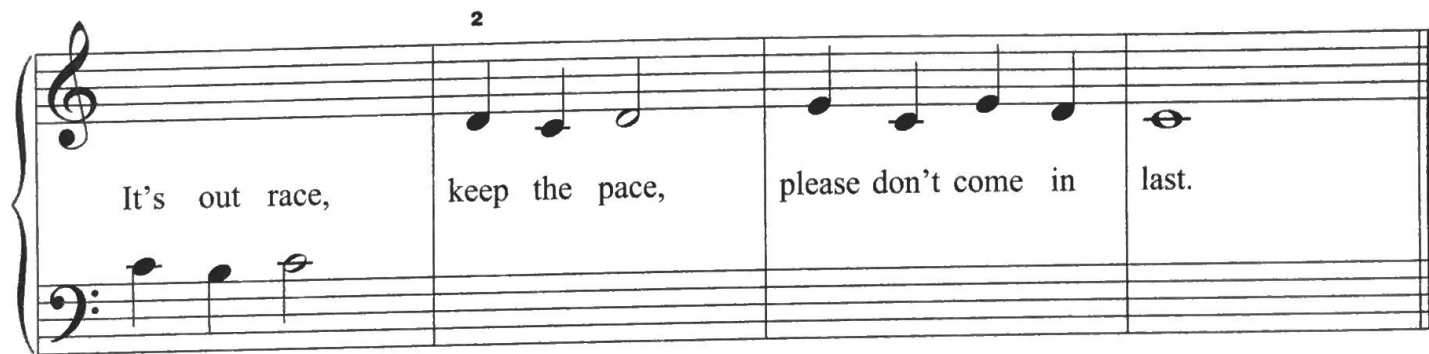
- Play other Es on the keyboard.
- How many Es are in this piece?
- Find and circle the 3rd in this piece.



[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



Count 1 2 3 4 etc.



1

## Teacher







## The Willow Tree

● How many 3rds (skips) are in this piece?

● How many 2nds (steps)?

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



3

Wil - low, how you swing and sway;

2

Un - der you I love to play.

2

**Teacher**

**Play every piece at least three times:**

1. Play and sing the letter names.

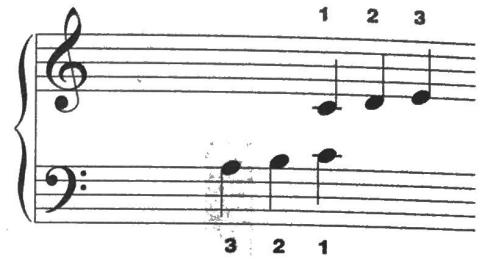
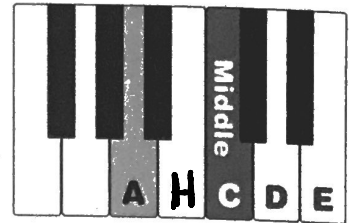
2. Play and count the beats.

3. Play and sing the words.

(Always listen for a beautiful tone.)

**NEW NOTE:**

**A** on the fifth line of the bass stave  
(a skip below **Middle C**)



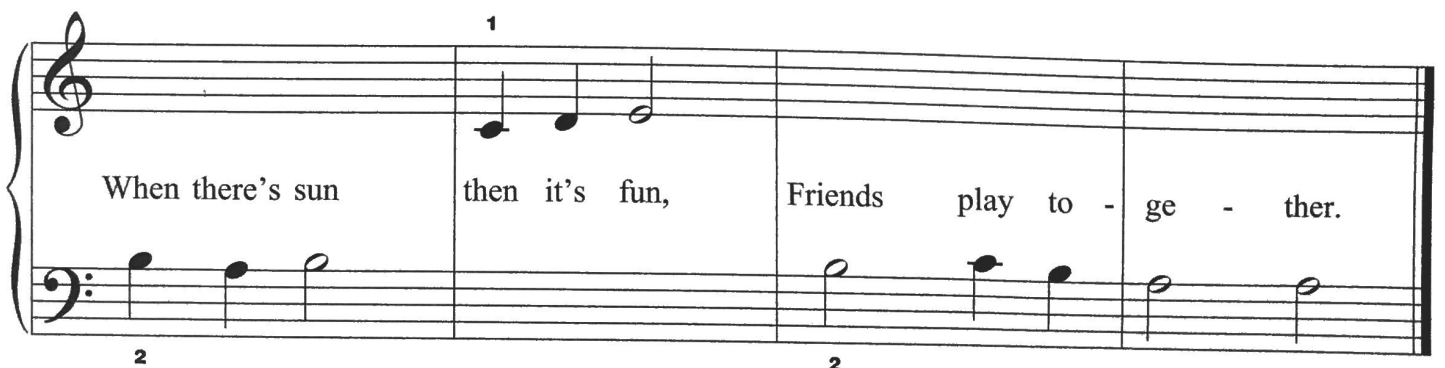
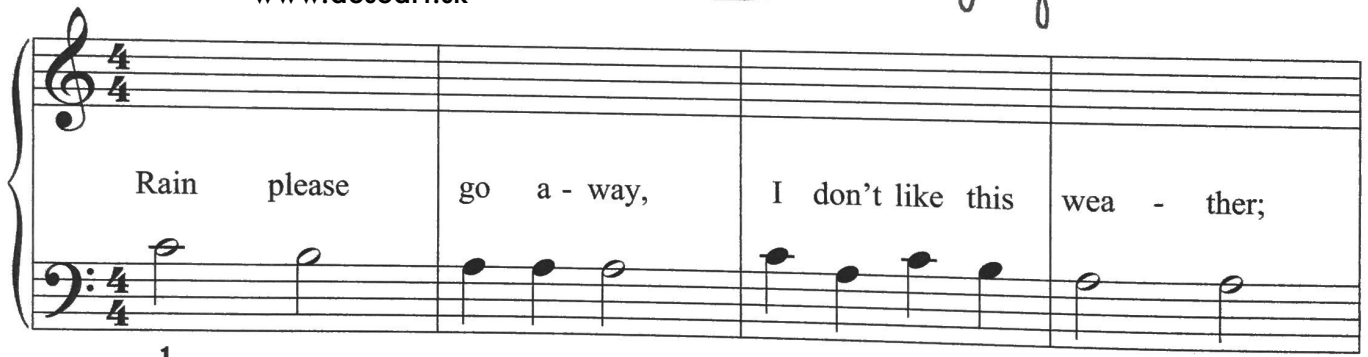
## Rain, Go Away

● Play **As** throughout the keyboard.

● How many **As** are in this piece?



[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



**Teacher**







# The A-C-E Song

● Point out all 3rds to your teacher.

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

3

A - C - E spells ace, A - C - E spells ace,

3

2 1 3

D - B - D and C - A - C just stare right in your face

2 3

Teacher



# NEW NOTE VALUE




## NEW TIME SIGNATURE:

- 3** Three counts to a Bar (measure).  
**4** A Crotchet (quarter-note) gets one count.

 = Dotted minim gets three counts.



Count      1      2      3                      1      2      3                      1      2      3

 =  = 

## First Serenade

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

1

Lis - ten, I'll sing you my first se - re - nade; You can sing

2

with me each time that it's played. Learn ev - 'ry word, then

3

sing like a bird, Best se - re - nade that you ev - er have heard.

3                      2

### Teacher

Teacher's accompaniment for the song, showing piano (p.) and forte (f.) dynamics.



# Reluctant Sleepy Head



1

*p* Sleep, my dear, it's get - ting late.

2

*f* No, no, no, my dream - ing can wait.

1

Repeat this piece playing the right-hand part an octave (eight keys) higher, and the left-hand part an octave lower.

*p* = Piano = soft  
*f* = Forte = loud

## Optional teacher-student duet:

1. Student plays only **bass** or **treble** part.
2. Student may use both hands, playing **octaves**.
3. Vary dynamics and tone quality.

# The Evening Bell

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



3

*p* Lis - ten to the eve - ning

3

bell, Bid - ding day a gen - tle fare - well.

3

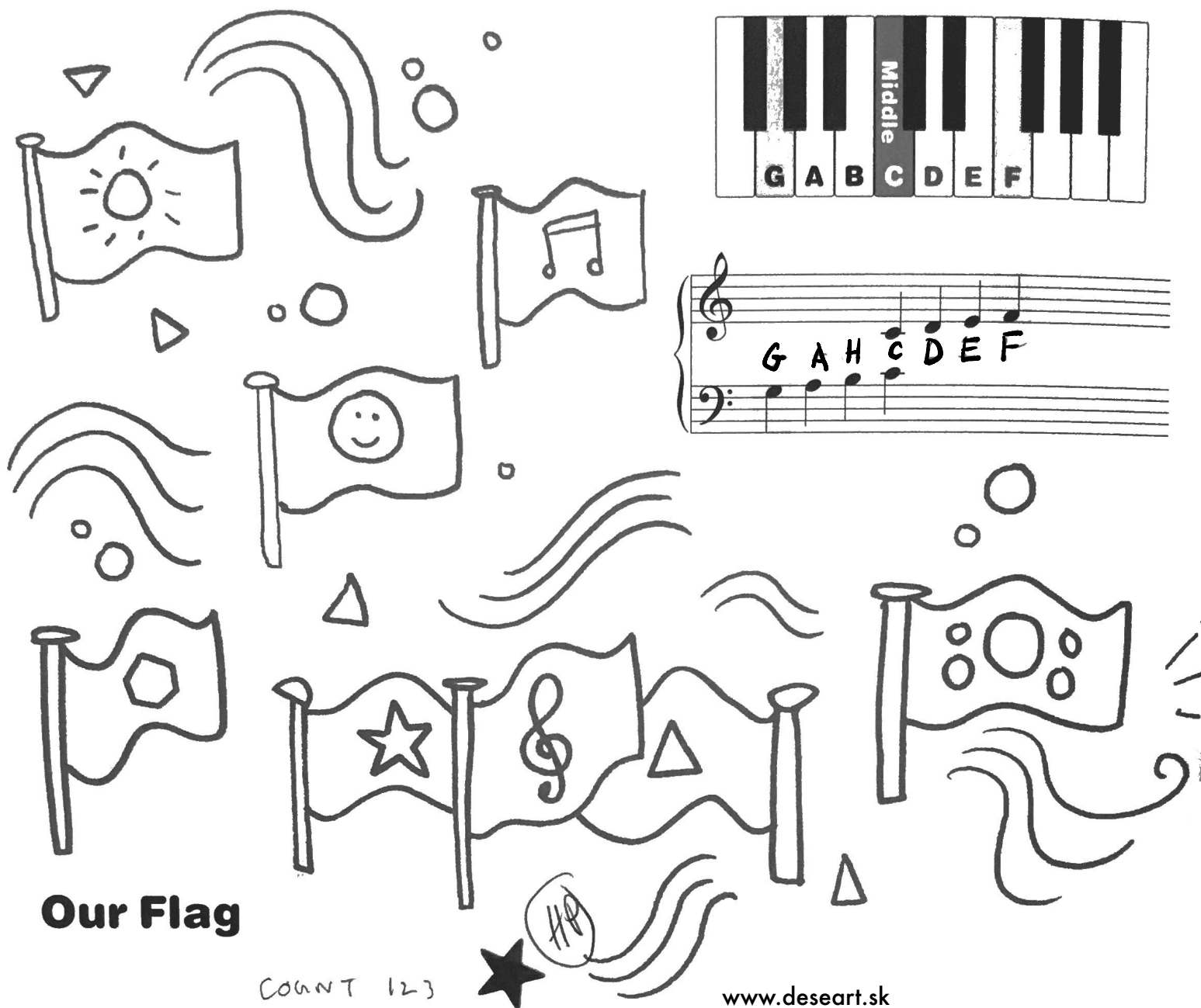
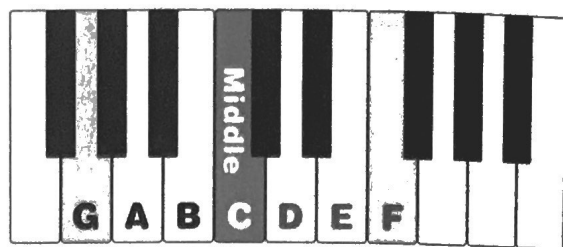
● Play **Gs** (and then **Fs**) throughout the keyboard.

Move in an arc  when jumping octaves.

## NEW NOTES:

**F** in the first space of the treble stave

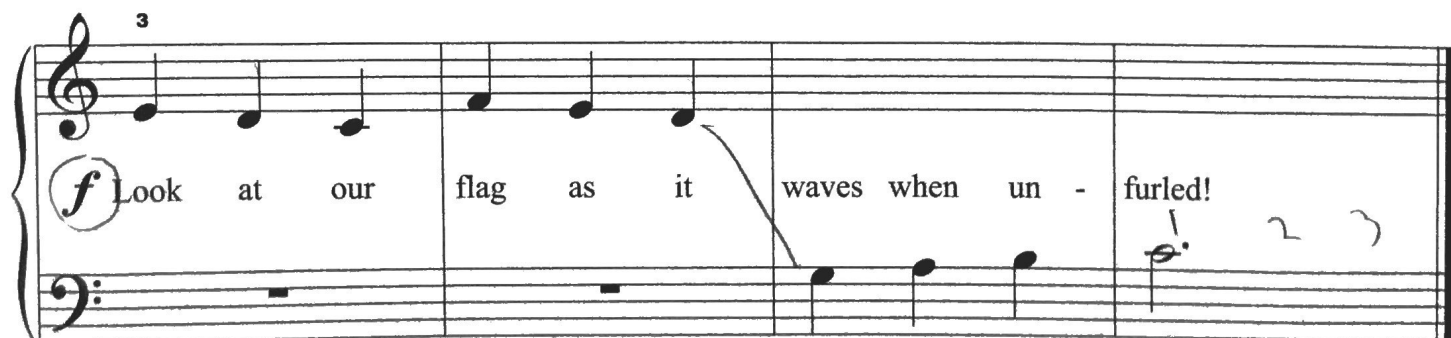
**G** in the fourth space of the bass stave

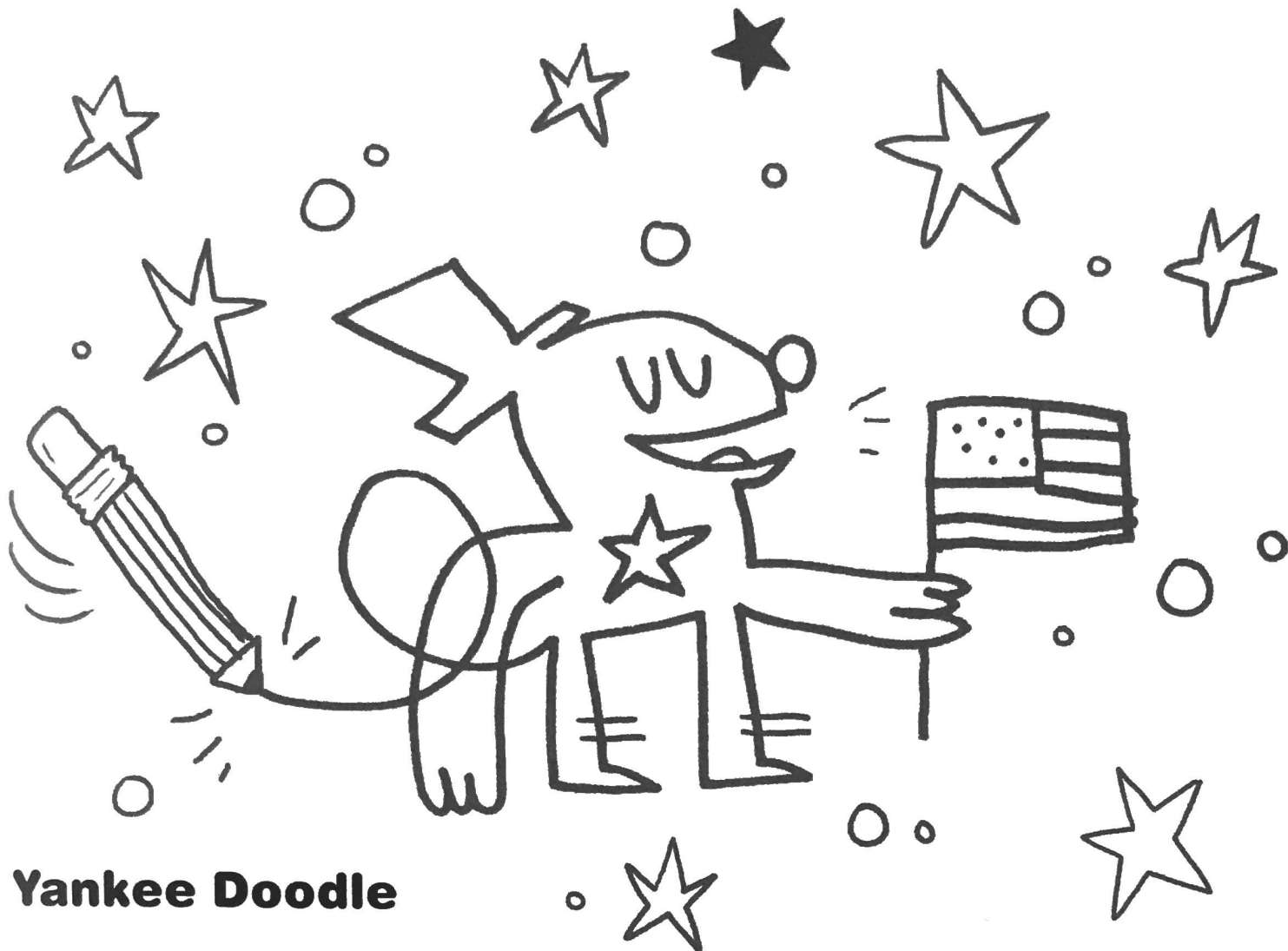


## Our Flag

COUNT 1 2 3

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)





## Yankee Doodle

COUNT 1 2 3 4 [www.desart.sk](http://www.desart.sk)

1

**f** Yan-kee Doo-dle went to town a - rid - ing on a po - ny, He

1 2 3 4

4 1

1

stuck a fea - ther in his hat and called it ma - ca - ro - ni.

2

Teacher

4/4

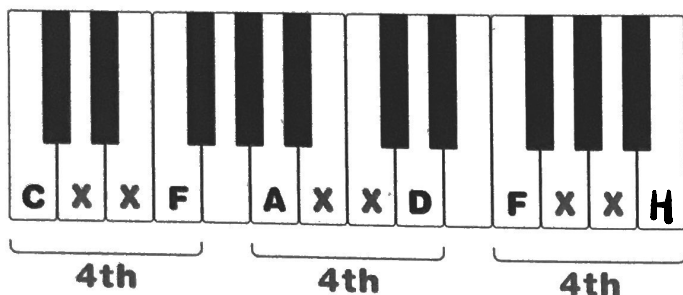
Teacher's accompaniment line.

# NEW INTERVAL: THE 4th



## ON THE KEYBOARD

A 4th is the distance between two white keys with two keys in between them (X X).



## ON THE STAVE

A 4th is the distance from a line to a space, or from a space to a line, with a line and a space skipped.

4th going up



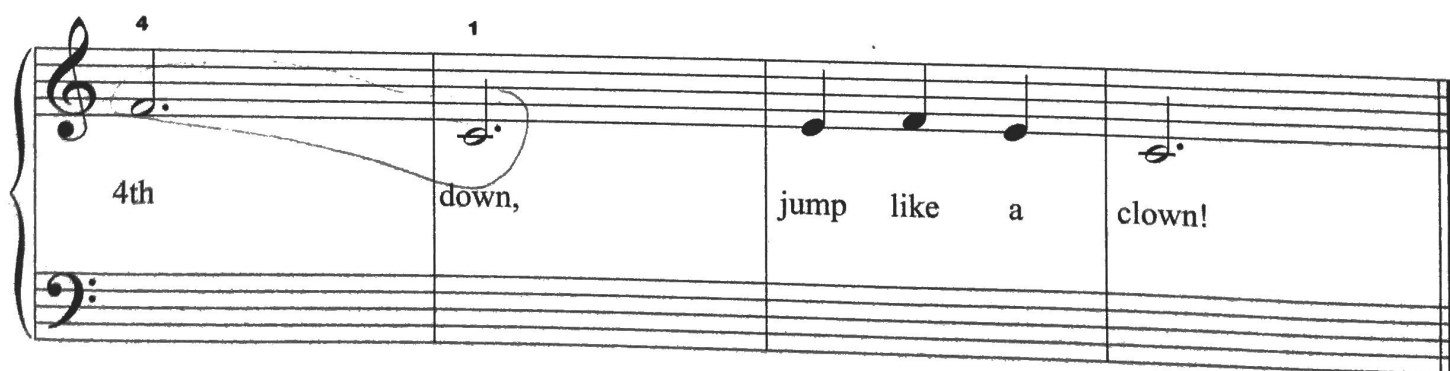
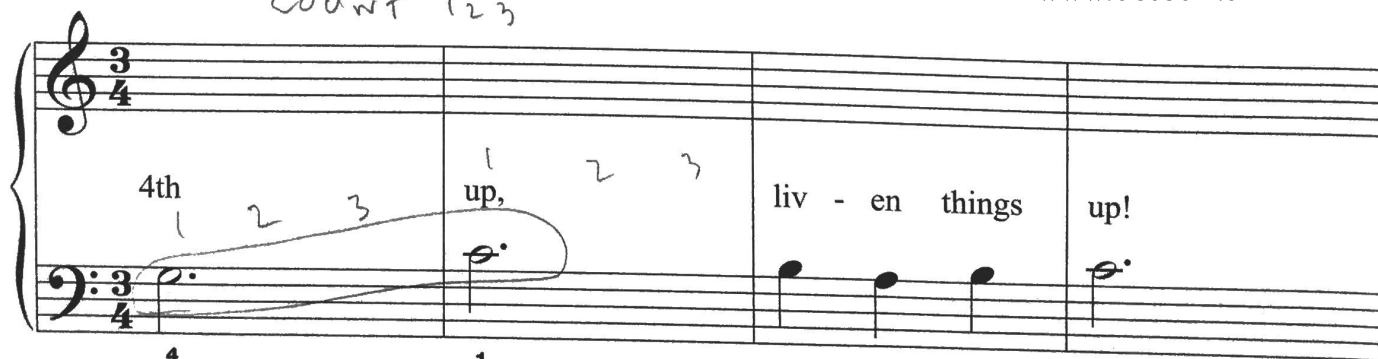
4th going down



- Play 4ths, up and down, all over the keyboard with fingers 1-4 and 2-5.

COUNT 1 2 3

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)





# OCTAVE SIGN *8va/8vb*

The symbol *8va* and a dotted line over the notes *8va* ---- mean that you play these notes an octave (eight keys) higher.

The symbol *8vb* and a dotted line under the notes *8vb* ---- mean that you play these notes an octave (eight keys) lower.



## Polka Time

- Circle all 4ths in this piece.
- How many 3rds are there?
- How many 2nds?

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

1

2



The treble clef is also called the **G clef** because its graceful design curls around the second line of the treble stave where the G above Middle C is located.

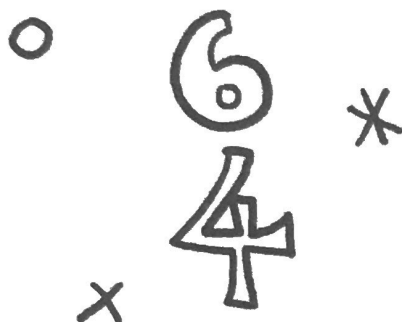
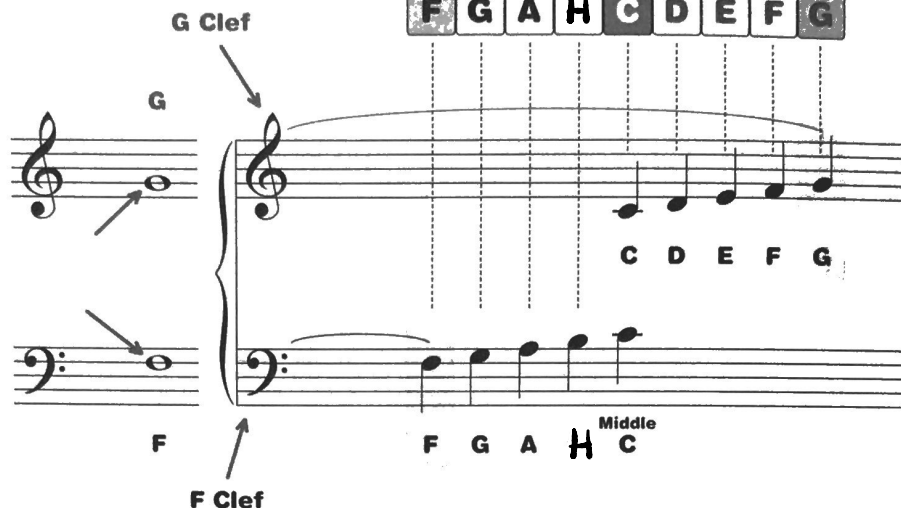
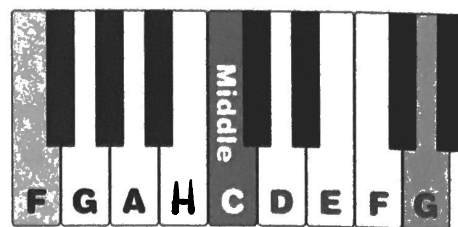


**NEW NOTE**

**NEW NOTE**

The **bass clef** is also called the **F clef** because its design originates on the fourth line of the bass stave where F below Middle C is located.

Notice that the two dots of the F clef surround the F line.

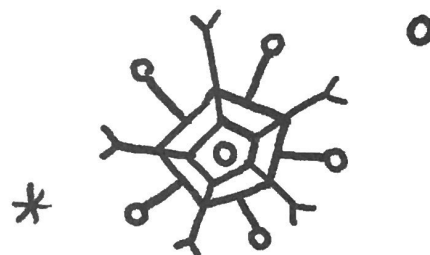


## WARM UP IN $\frac{6}{4}$ TIME

- 6** Six counts to each Bar (measure).
- 4** Crotchet (quarter-note) gets one count.

- Circle all Fs and Gs.
- Play this piece and call out the letter names of the notes.
- Then play it again and count aloud the beats in each bar.
- Then play it and sing the words.

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

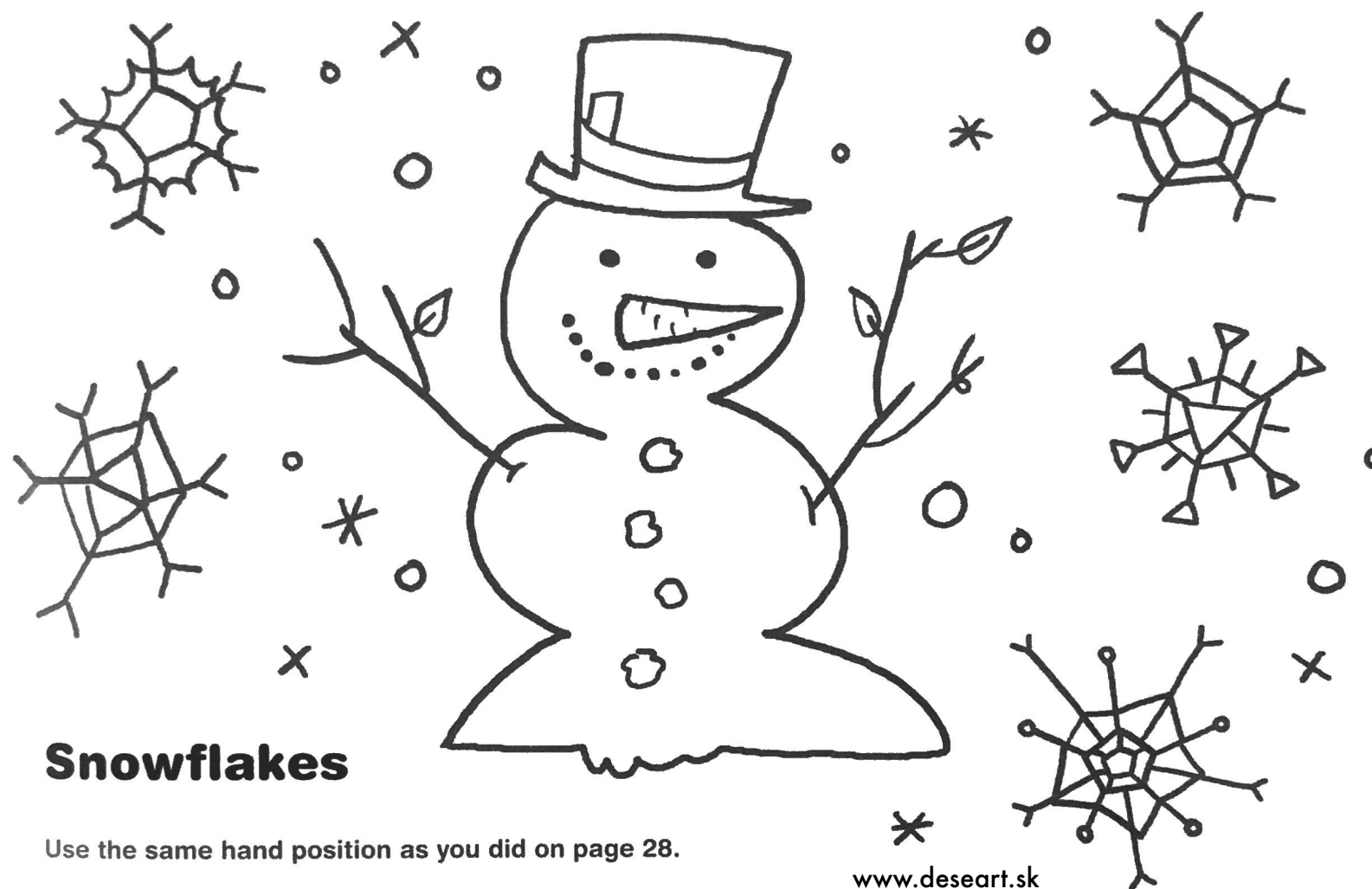


6

Count 1 2 3 4 5 6

Play this piece four ways:

- Play as written.
- Play the left-hand part as written and the right-hand part an octave higher.
- Play the right-hand part as written and the left-hand part an octave lower.
- Play the right-hand part an octave higher and the left-hand part an octave lower.



## Snowflakes

Use the same hand position as you did on page 28.

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

1 2

*p* Swirl - ing and twirl - ing the snows are un - furl - ing. They

3 5

melt down the pane like a sil - ver - y rain.

3 2

**When the two hands play together, each one playing a different note, make sure that the finger of the left hand and the finger of the right hand strike the keys exactly together.**



**Use the same hand position as you did on page 28.**

● Circle all 4ths. [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

COUNT 1 2 3

Handwritten musical score for the song "Look Every Body, I'm Waltzing". The score is written on a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is written in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Look ev - 'ry - bo - dy, I'm waltz ing,". The word "waltz" is written above the bass line, and "ing," is written above the treble line. There are handwritten annotations: "1 2 3" above the first measure, "1 2 3" above the second measure, "1 2 3" above the third measure, and "1 2 3" above the fourth measure. The word "waltz" is circled in the third measure, and "ing," is circled in the fourth measure. The score is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

3

Oom - pa - pa, oom - pa - pa, is - n't it fine?

Handwritten notes: A handwritten 'X' is above the first 'pa' in the first measure. In the final measure, there is a handwritten '2' and a '3' with a bracket, indicating a second ending.

Handwritten musical notation on a four-measure staff. The first measure contains the lyrics "Join in the" and the second measure contains "fun, be my". The third measure contains "part" and the fourth measure contains "ner,". Above the staff, there are handwritten numbers "2 3" in the third measure and "1 2 3" in the fourth measure. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter) in the first measure; C5 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter) in the second measure; G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter) in the third measure; D4 (half) in the fourth measure. There are also handwritten annotations: a "1" above the first note of the third measure, and "2 3" above the second and third notes of the third measure. In the fourth measure, there is a "1" above the note and "2 3" to its right. A bracket connects the end of the third measure to the start of the fourth measure.

3

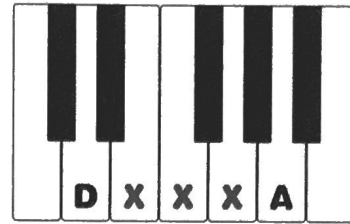
Sing - ing and danc - ing in three - quar - ter time!



# NEW INTERVAL: THE 5th

## ON THE KEYBOARD

A 5th is the distance between two white keys with three white keys in between them (XXX).



## ON THE STAVE

A 5th is the distance from a line to a line, or from a space to a space, with one line and two spaces, or one space and two lines, skipped.



- Play 5ths, up and down, all over the keyboard with fingers 1-5.

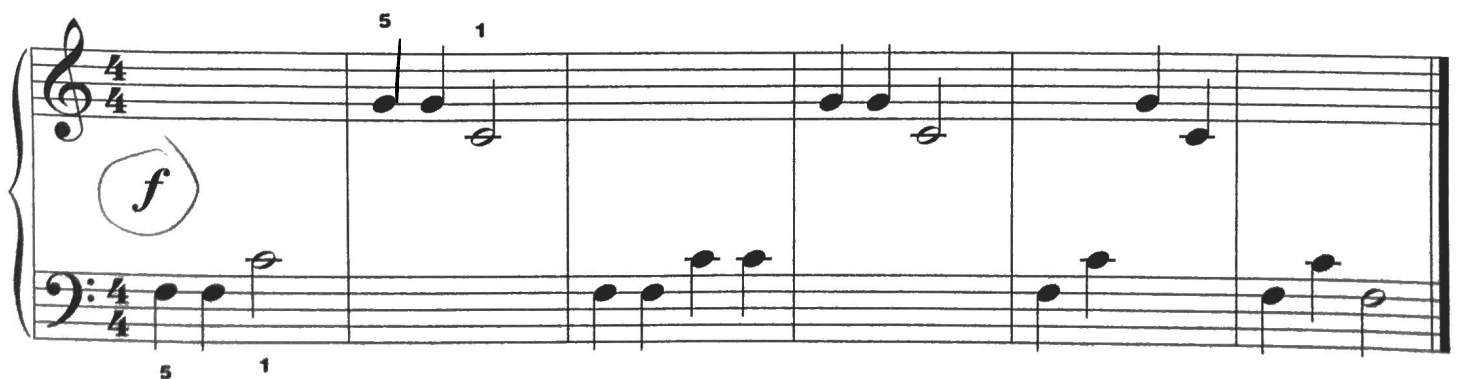


5th up, 5th down, There's no need to frown.




5th down, 5th up, Things are look - ing up!

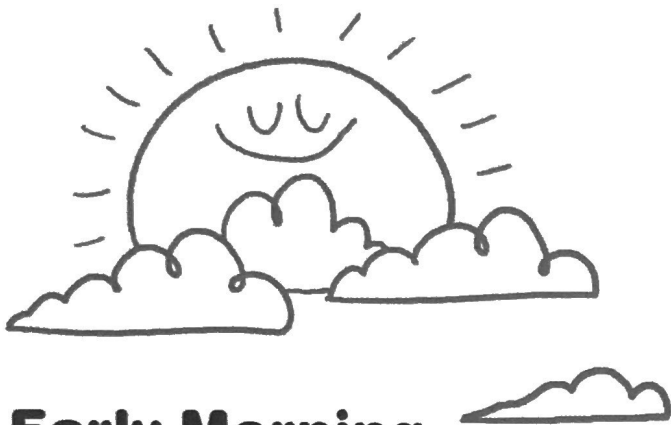
## Hop Scotch



**Rest signs** indicate periods of silence in music.

 This sign, a little beam hanging from the fourth line, is called a **semibreve rest**.

It indicates silence in one whole **bar** (measure) of any kind.



## Early Morning

Use the same hand position as you did on page 28.

● Circle the 5ths in this piece.

● How many 3rds are there?



[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



Handwritten: 1 2 3 4

Handwritten: 1 2 3 4

## Teacher

**Tempo** is the rate of speed at which a piece of music is performed.  
It is important to play a piece at a tempo that fits its mood and character.  
You will find a **tempo mark** at the beginning of most pieces.



## The Wind And The Breeze

Use the same hand position as you did on page 28.

Slowly

[www.desart.sk](http://www.desart.sk)

**f** Hear the au-tumn wind, **p** hear the gen-tle breeze;

**f** Au-tumn wind, blow hard, **p** breeze, ca-ress the trees.

**f** Blow, wind, blow! **p** Breeze whis-per low.

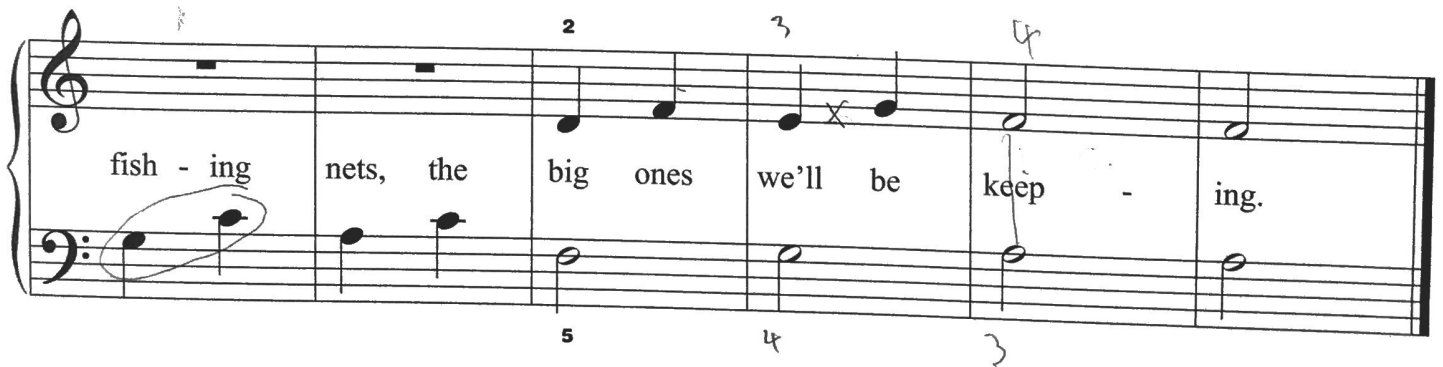
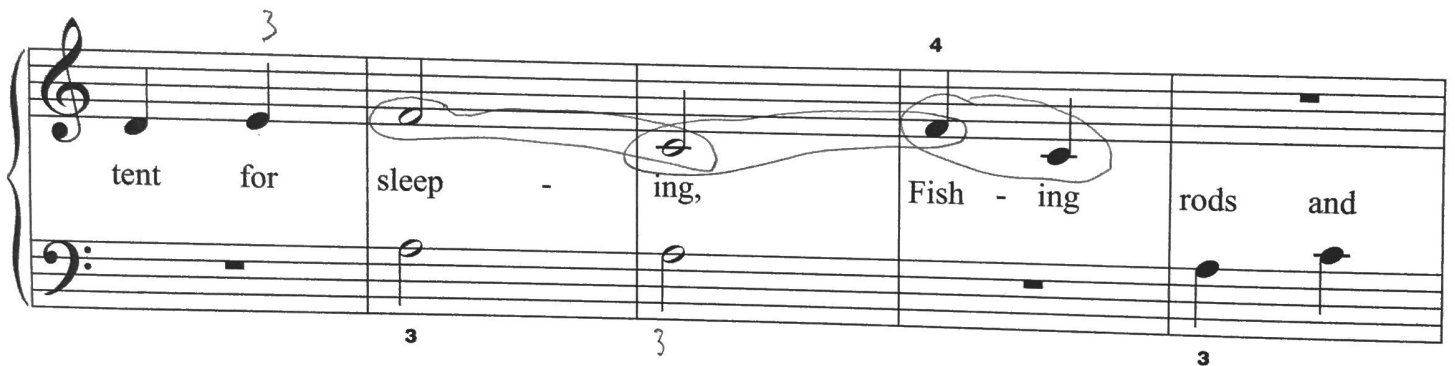
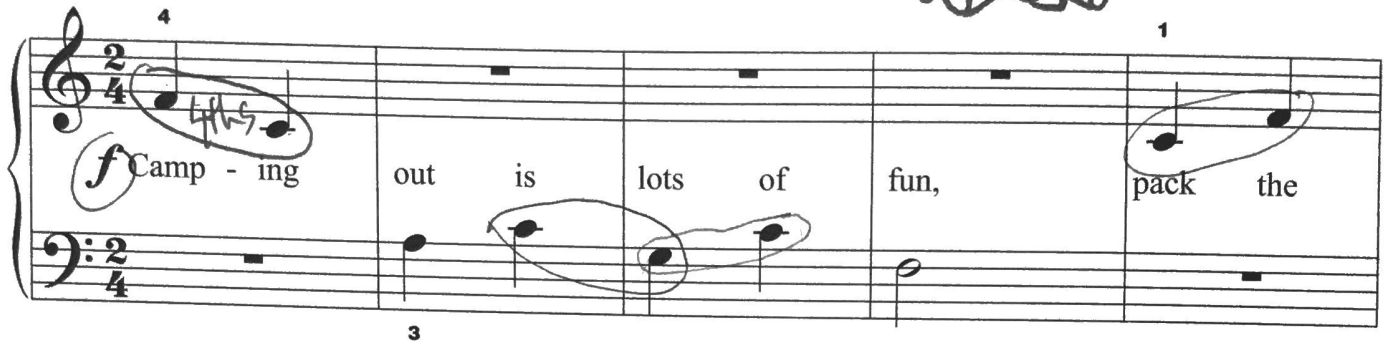


# Camping Trip

● Circle all 4ths.

Boldly moving

[www.desart.sk](http://www.desart.sk)



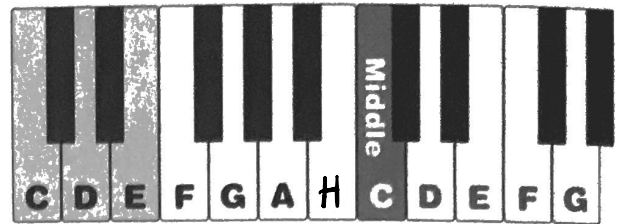
● Count the beats and clap once for each note in the following exercises:





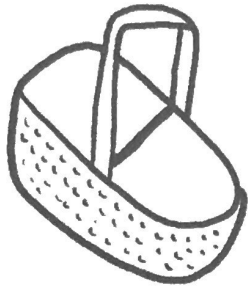
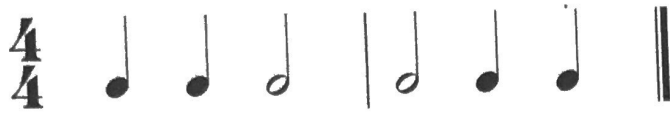
# C POSITION

## NEW NOTES



### Practice Instructions:

- Beginning on C, play five-finger pattern.
- Clap this rhythm repeatedly:



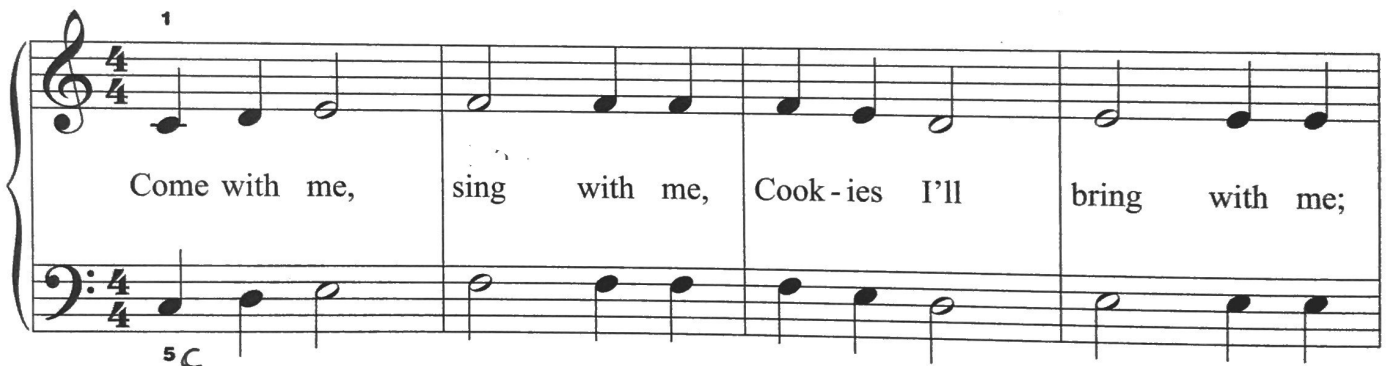
## Invitation To A Picnic



- Play this piece first with the left hand alone.

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Slovak Play Tune



### Teacher



>

= Accent Mark (stress the note)

*mf*

= Mezzo Forte = medium loud



# Round Dance

Use C position (page 36).

Lively [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

1

mf

3/4

4

5

1

2

3

4

5

1

5

4

3

4

1

3

2

1

5

3

1

2

3

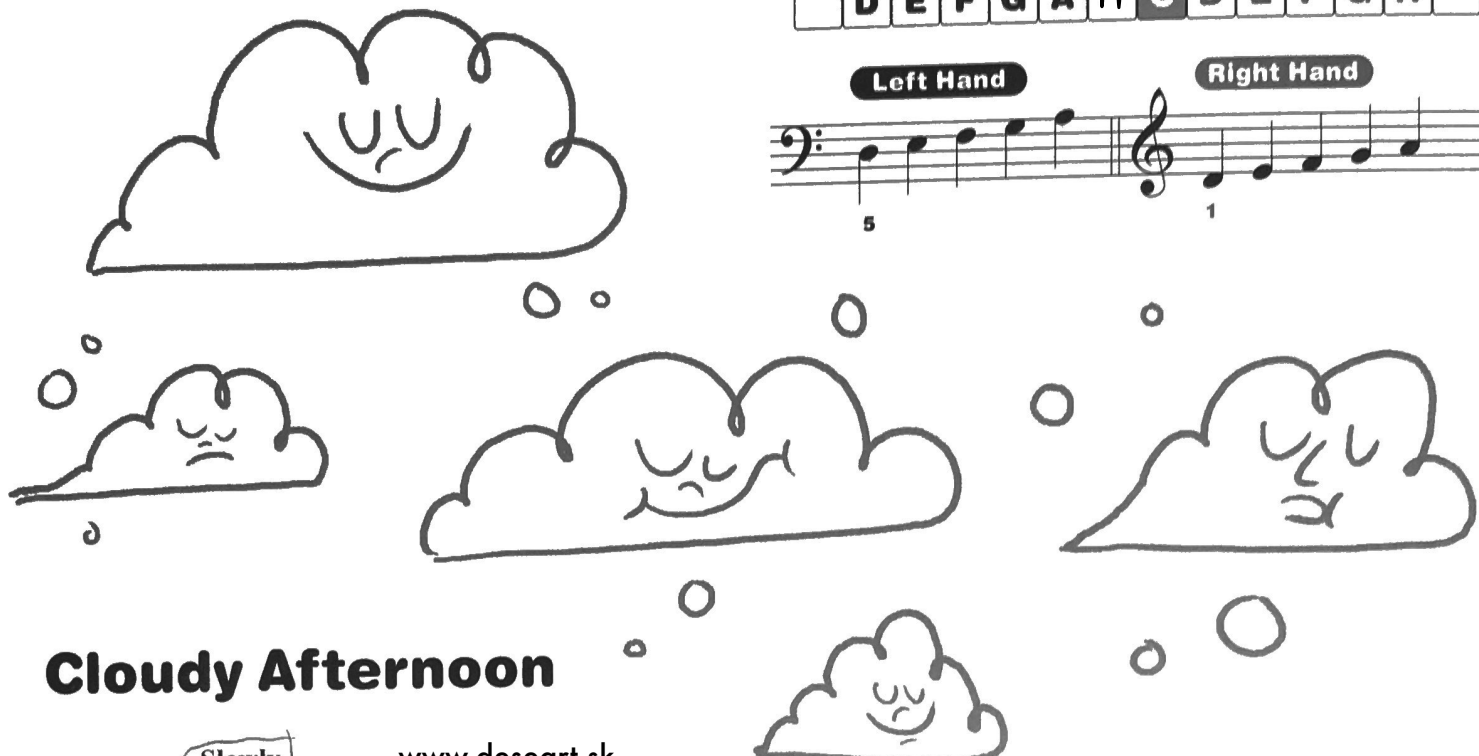
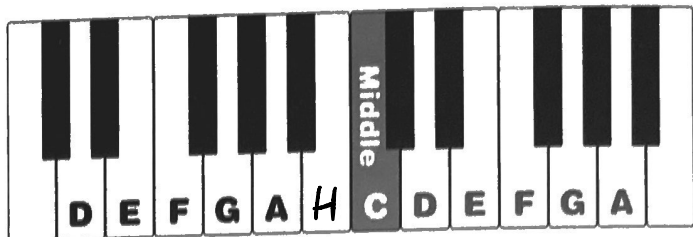
# THE SLUR AS LEGATO MARK



The slur is a curved line placed over or under two or more notes. It indicates the smooth, connected manner of playing called legato.



**Legato** an Italian word, means 'bound together'. The notes bound together by a slur are to be played without any break or gap between the notes; a depressed key is allowed to rise only when the next key is depressed by another finger.



## Cloudy Afternoon

Slowly

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

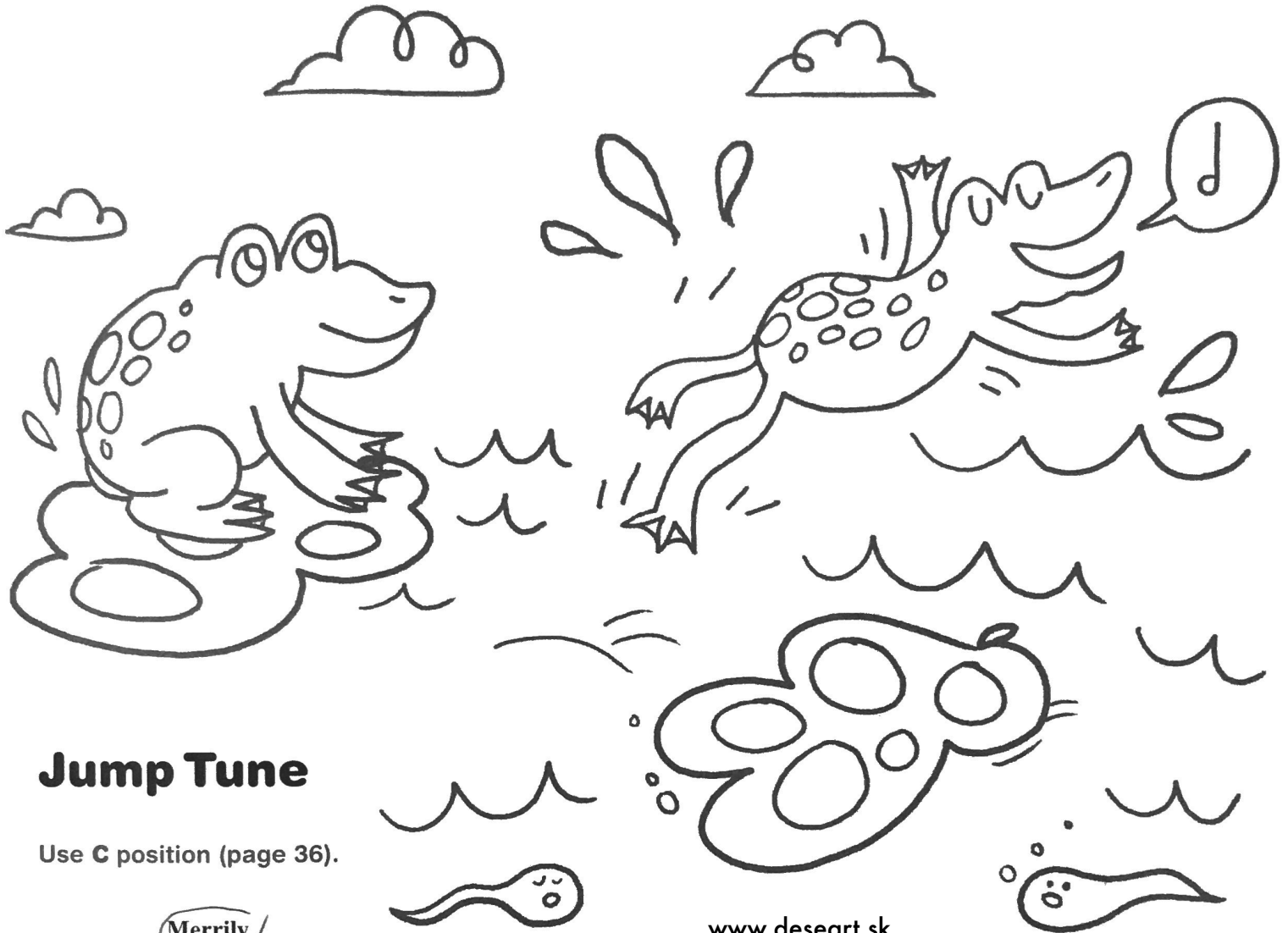
①

*mf* What a calm af - ter - noon, no - thing much to do; Cloud - y days,

mist - y skies, make me feel so blue, *p* Make me feel so blue.

2 1 4

This sign is called a **crotchet rest**.  
 It indicates silence for one beat (one count).  
 It has the same time value as a **crotchet** (quarter-note)



## Jump Tune

Use C position (page 36).

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

**Merrily**

Handwritten annotations: *smoothly*, *smooth*



# TWO-NOTE SLURS

A two-note slur has two notes played legato, with a graceful 'release' on the second note.



## Playing a Two-Note Slur:

1. 'Fall' into the first key (from a high wrist to level with forearm) letting the weight of the hand and arm 'sink' into the key.
2. Play the second note with legato touch and a graceful rise of the wrist.
3. Continue that motion as the arm and hand follow through, 'floating' forward and releasing the key.



## Flying

Rather slowly

www.deseart.sk

40

1 2 2 3 3 4 4 5

Fly - ing in the wild blue yon - der,

5 4 4 3 3 2 2 1

How high am I, I just won - der.

1 2 2 3 3 4 4 5

# MELODIC & HARMONIC INTERVALS

Notes played one after another form a **melody**. The interval between two notes of a melody is called a **melodic interval**. Name these **melodic intervals**.

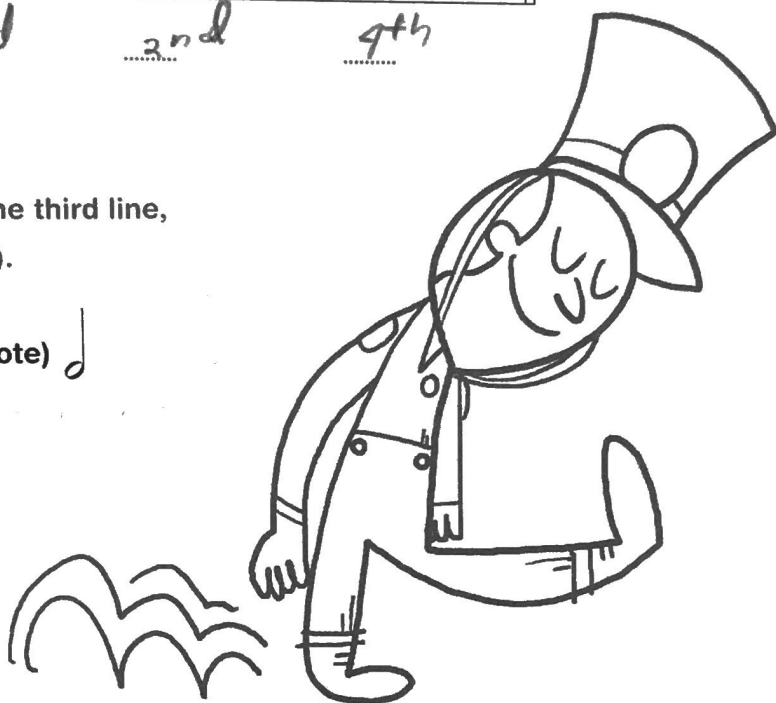
Two or more notes sounded together form **harmony**. The intervals between two notes sounded together is called a **harmonic interval**. Name these **harmonic intervals**:




 This sign, a little bar sitting on the third line,  
is called a **minim rest** (half rest).

It indicates silence for two beats (two counts).

It has the same time value as a **minim** (half-note) 



## Marching Intervals

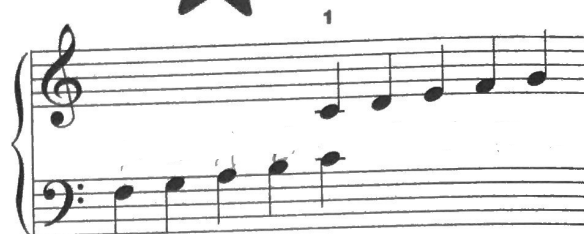
Walking tempo

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

# THE SLUR AS A PHRASE MARK

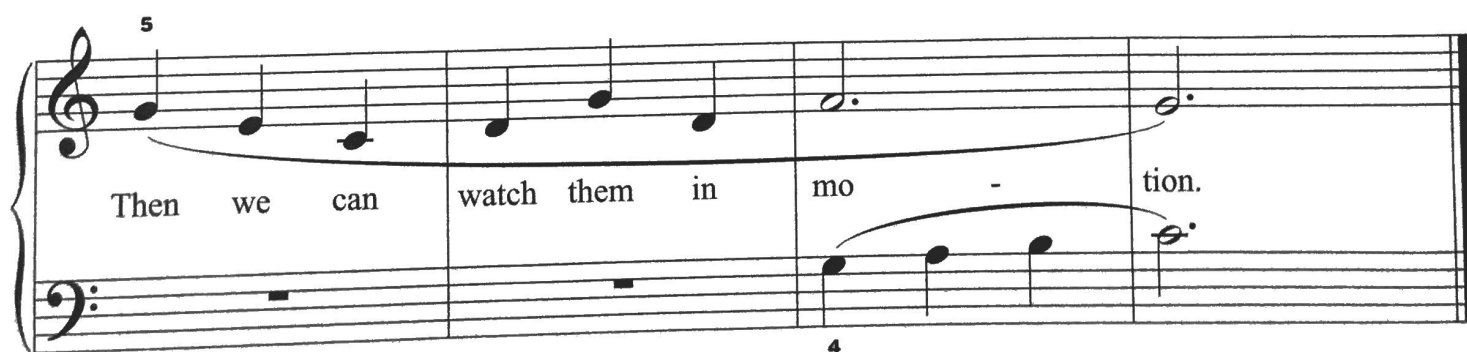
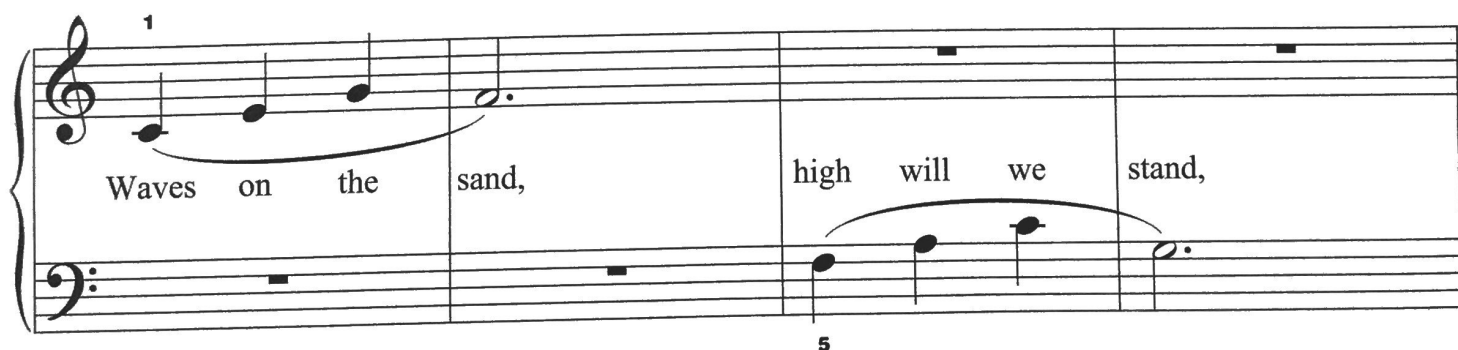
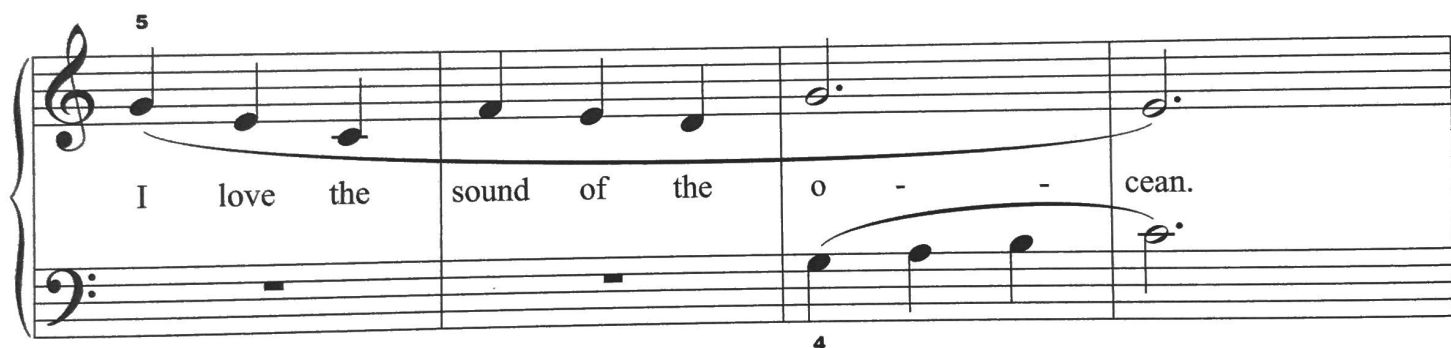
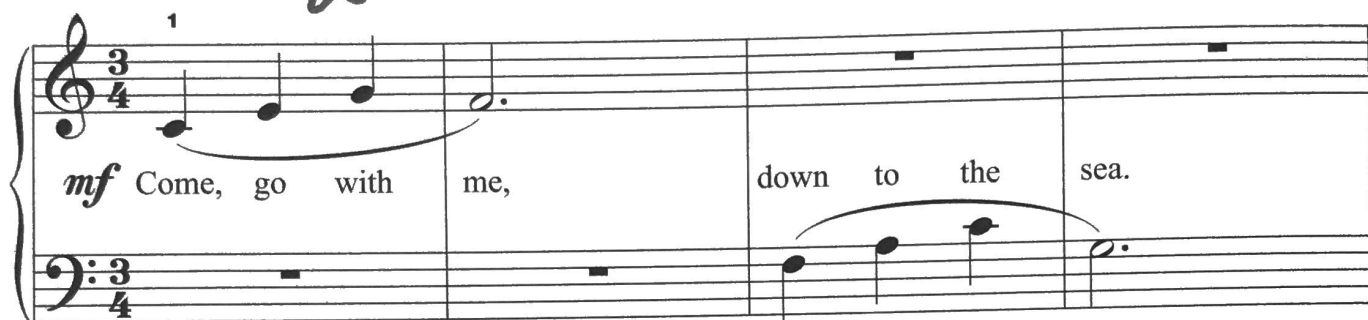


A group of notes connected by a slur often forms a melody unit called a **phrase**. Phrases are usually two to four bars in length.



## Down To The Sea

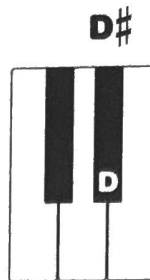
www.desart.sk Vigorously



# THE SHARP SIGN #



Placed in front of a note,  
the **sharp sign #** raises that  
note to the nearest key  
to the right, black or white.



D sharp



F sharp

## Let's Be Sharp

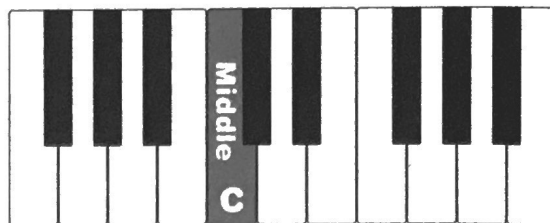
Use C position (page 36).

Moderately [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

All notes in this song are on black keys.



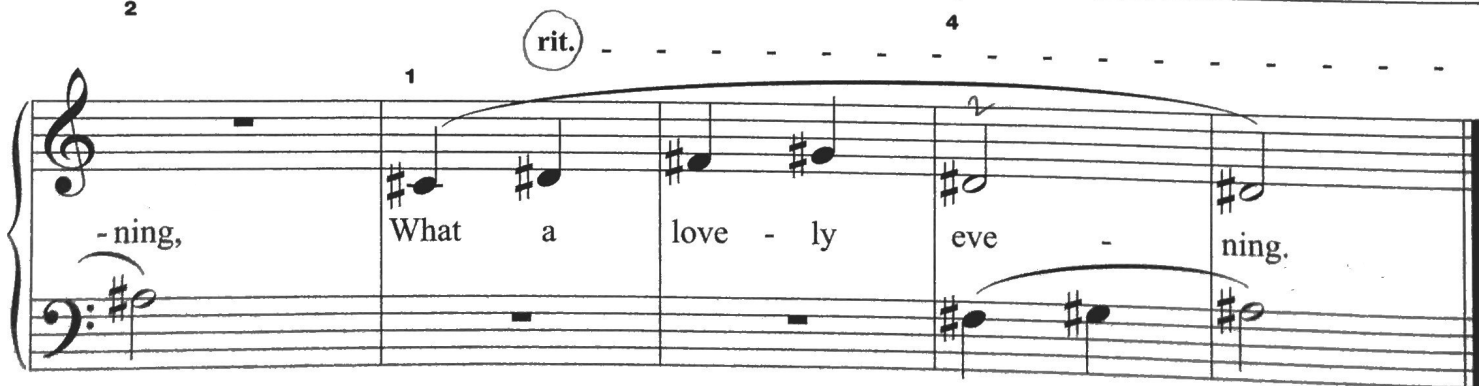
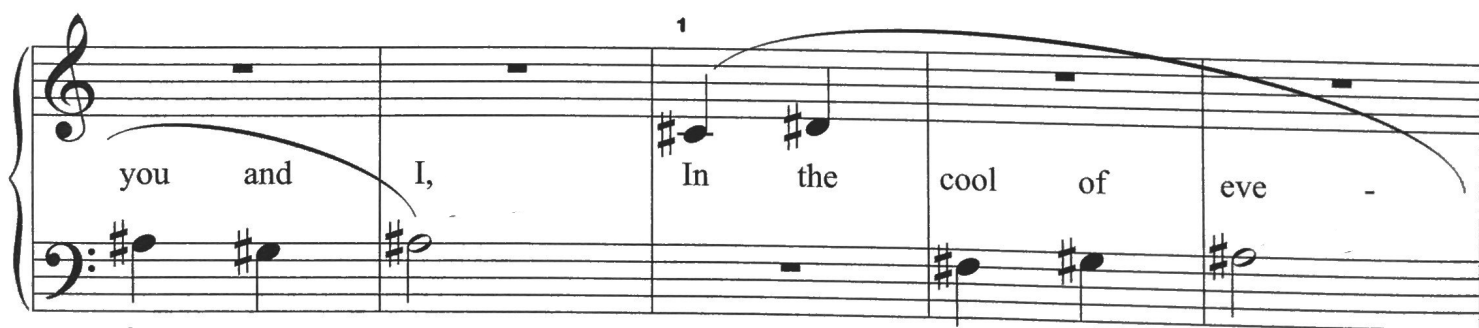
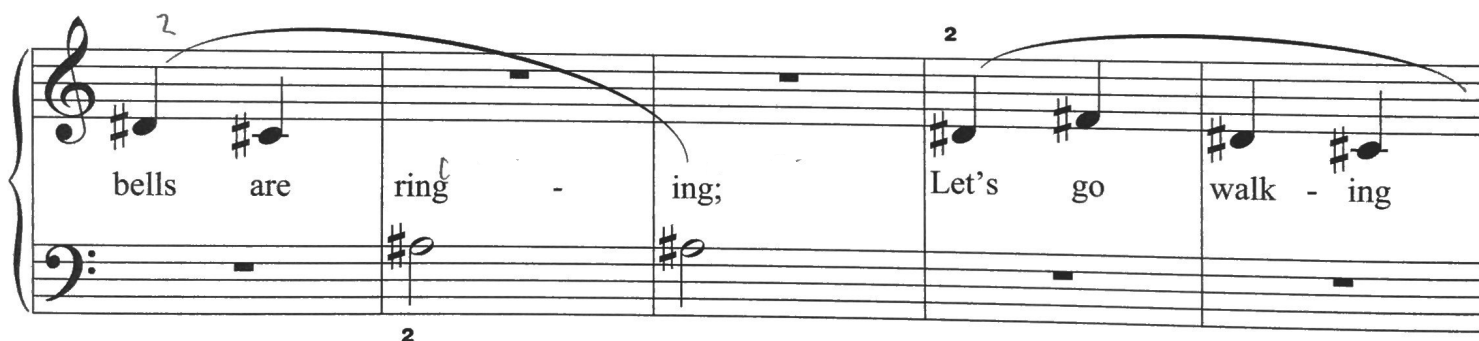
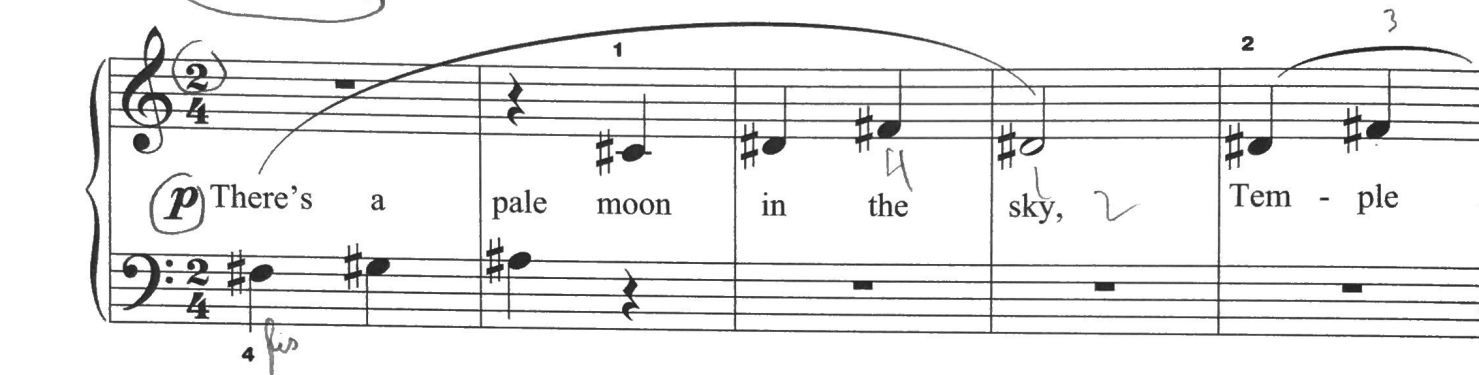
F# G# A# C# D# F# G#



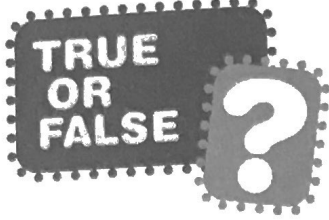
## Little Chinese Song

Gently moving

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



**SKILL BUILDER:** You can also play this piece on all white keys, starting on F.



..... 1. This interval is a 4th

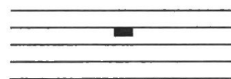


..... 2. The treble clef is also called the F clef.

..... 3. This note gets three counts



..... 4. This rest gets two counts



## An Alphabet Song

Moderately [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)







Smoothly moving [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Look for skips



3

*mf* Skate hand in hand, through cry - stal land,

5

4

1 2 3

1 2 3

2

Skim - ming the edge of our fa - vour - ite pond.

1

1 2 3

Smooth - ly we glide, close by my side,

1

Watch - ing the sun - set far be - yond.

# STACCATO

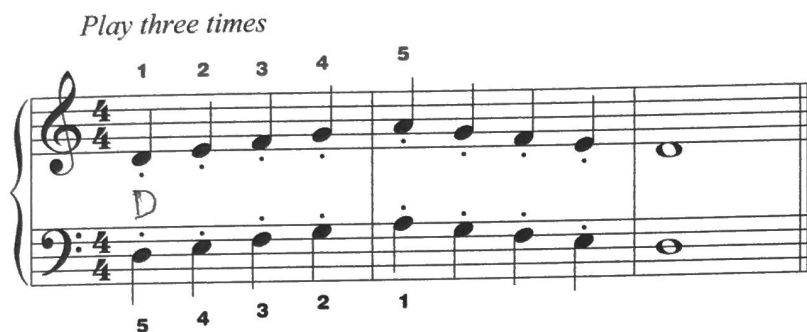
**Staccato** is the opposite of **legato**.

A small dot above or below the notehead indicates that you should play in the short, detached manner called **staccato**.

After striking the key, the finger bounces back, returning instantly to a raised position.



WARM-UP:



## Knock On Wood



Moderately [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

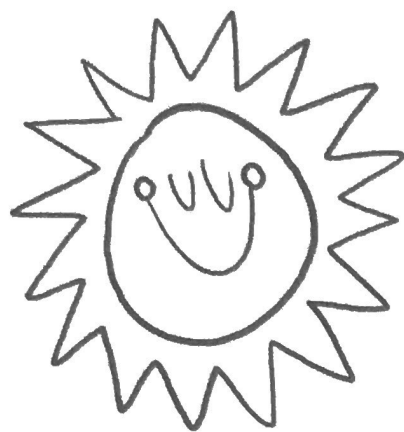
mf Knock on wood, you'll feel good, You'll have lots of

luck to - day. I would knock wood if I could,

I just hope I'm luck - y a - ny - way.

|| The repeat sign tells you to repeat the preceding section.

- Observe the contrast between *staccato* and *legato* touches.



## Cuckoo

Playfully

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Folk Tune

5 2

*mf* Cuck - oo, cuck - oo, sing night and day.  
Cuck - oo, cuck - oo, don't fly a - way.

1 1

2

Nev - er stop sing - ing joy you are bring - ing, Cuck - oo,

3


2

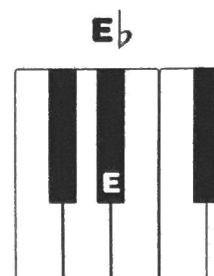
cuck - oo, why can't you stay? Cuck - oo, cuck - oo, cuck - oo.

*f* *mf* *8va* *p*

1

# THE FLAT SIGN

Placed in front of a note, the **flat sign**  **lowers** that note to the nearest key to the left, black or white.



## A Touch Of Blue

Use C position (page 36).

Quite slowly

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

*p* Oh, boo - hoo! Think I have the flu.

*mf* It's a nice day, but I can't play, I'm so blue.

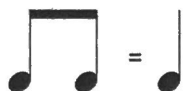
# QUAVERS



This is a **quaver** (eighth-note).  
It looks like a **crotchet** (quarter-note)  
with a little flag.



These are two **quavers**.  
Two **quavers** are connected with a beam instead  
of being drawn with individual flags.



One Count

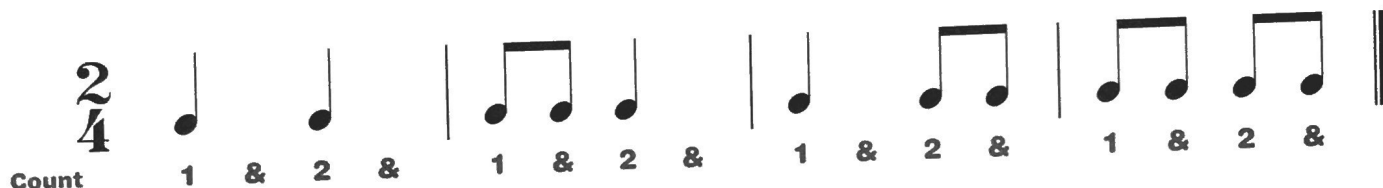
Two **quavers** equal the time value  
of one **crotchet**, one count.

Count  
**quavers**  
this way:

$\frac{2}{4}$



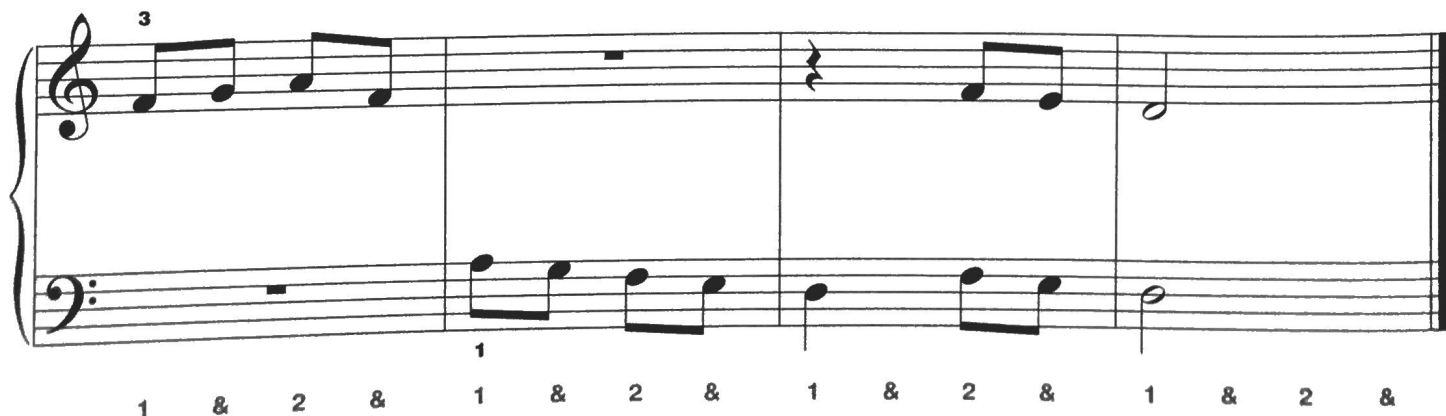
● Clap hands on every note and count aloud.



## A Brief Stroll



Slow walking tempo [www.desart.sk](http://www.desart.sk)



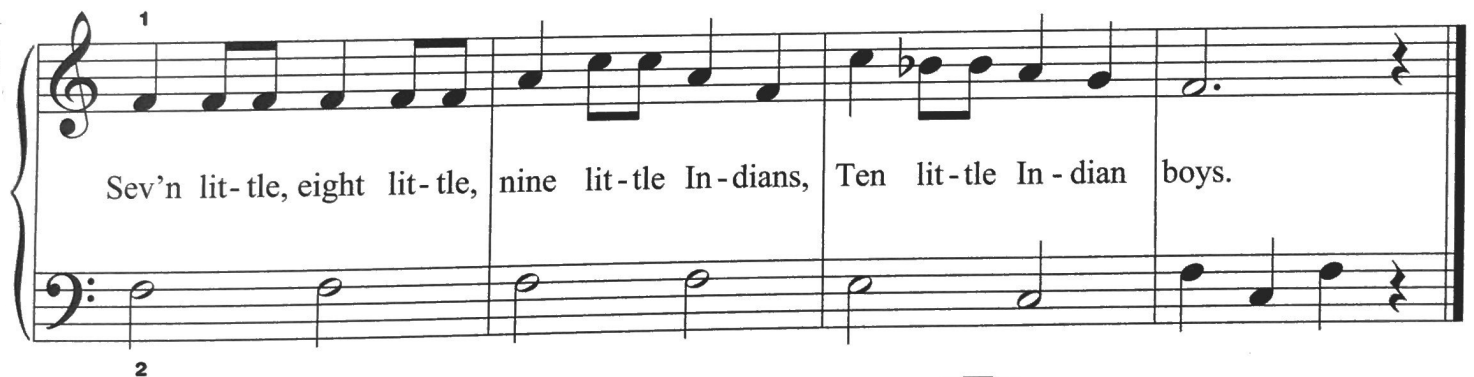
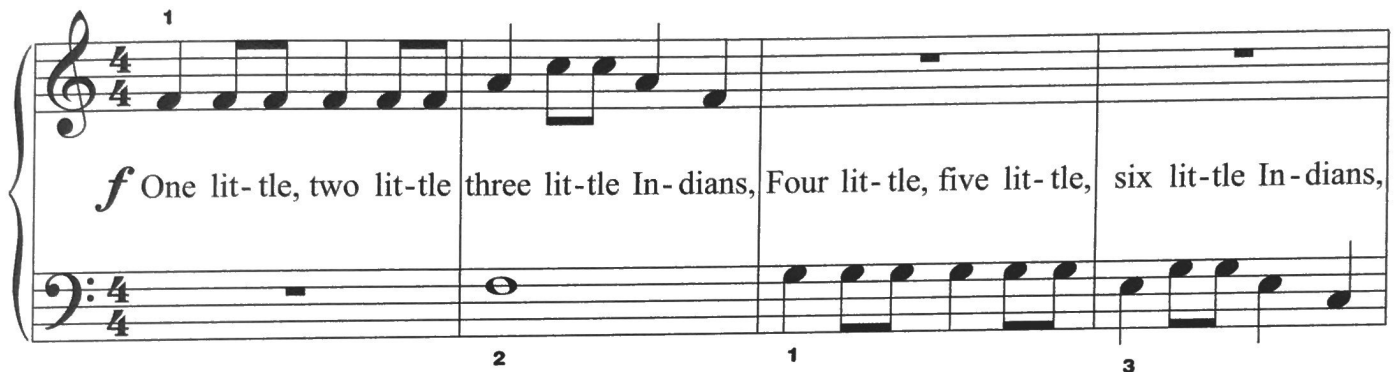


Every time you sing the word 'little,'  
you play two quavers on one beat.

## Little Indians On Parade

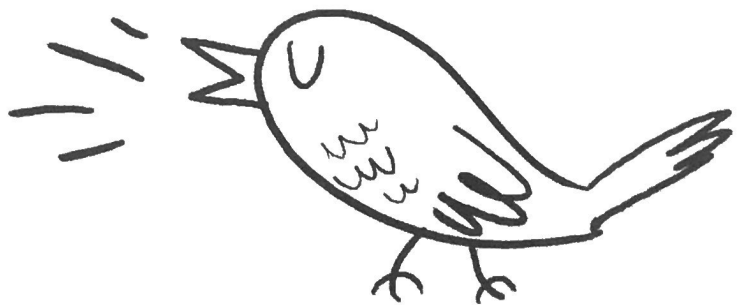
Lively march tempo

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



## Morning Call

Right hand position same as above.



Quite lively



Count 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3



# THE TIE

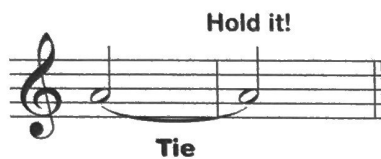
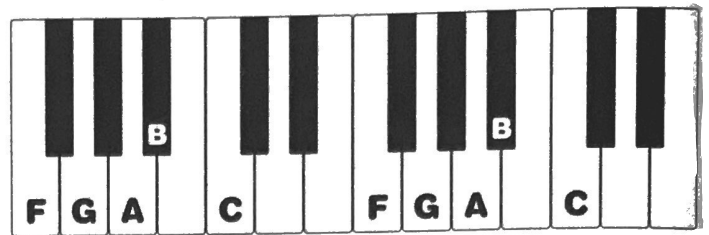
A **Tie** is a curved line connecting two neighbouring notes that are on the same line or in the same space. When two such notes are tied together we play only the first note and *hold* the second note without striking the key again.

(Hes)

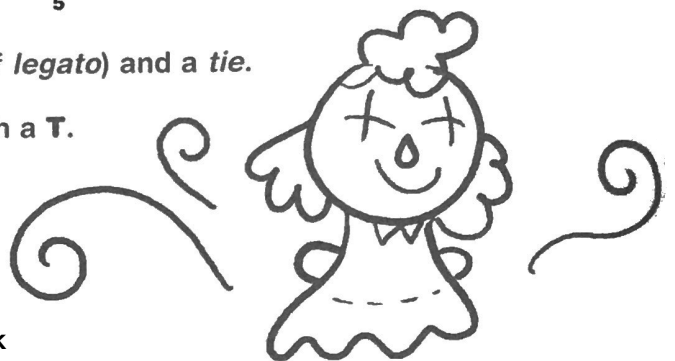
(Hes)

B

B



- Remember the difference between a *slur* (the sign of *legato*) and a *tie*.
- Before playing the following piece mark every tie with a T.



## Lullaby For A Rag Doll

Slow and gentle rocking motion [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

③

*p* Rag doll, rag doll, sweet,

②

④

Cute from head to feet. Ev - 'ry night I

③

⑤

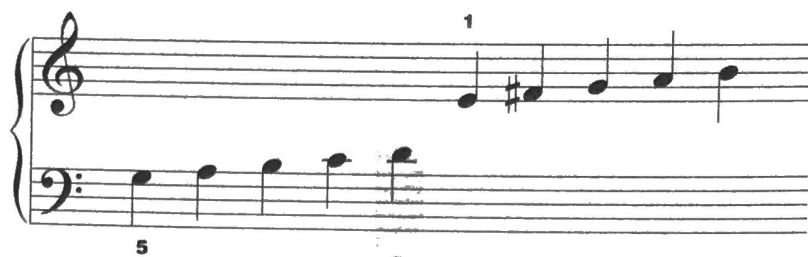
④

rock him to slum - ber, Oh, what a treat.

② ① ③

## INCOMPLETE BARS

A melody can start on any beat of the bar, not only on the first one.



'Cowboy Song' starts on the last beat of the bar, on count 'three.' This note will complete the missing beat in the last bar.

NEW NOTE

## Cowboy Song



Gaily

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Musical score for 'Cowboy Song' in 3/4 time, marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

**System 1:** *mf* We're up in the morn - ing ere break - ing of day, The

**System 2:** chuck wa - gon's bu - sy, the flap - jack's in play. The

**System 3:** herd is a - stir ov - er hill - side and vale, With the

**System 4:** night - ri - ders crowd - ing them in - to the trail.

Counting numbers (1, 3, 5) are placed above or below notes to indicate the beat of the measure.

# MORE ABOUT SHARPS & FLATS

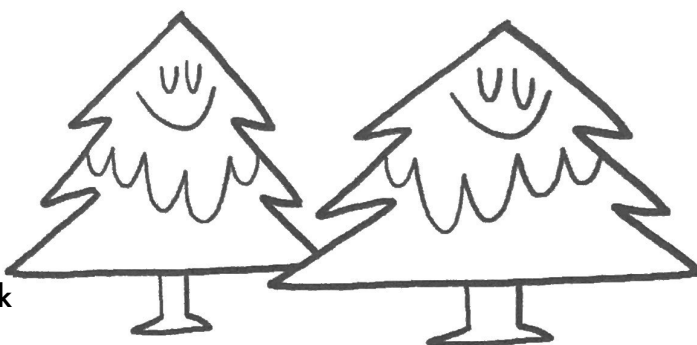
Sharps and flats alter not only the note in front of which they stand, but also all other notes on the same line or in the same space for the rest of that one bar (measure).

- Circle those notes which have to be raised or lowered, even though they do not have a sharp or flat in front of them.



## Dear Wintertime

See hand position on next page.



Moderately [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Folk Song

*mf* Snow fell to - day, Hope it will stay,

Then we can sled down the hill, Ride till we all take a spill,

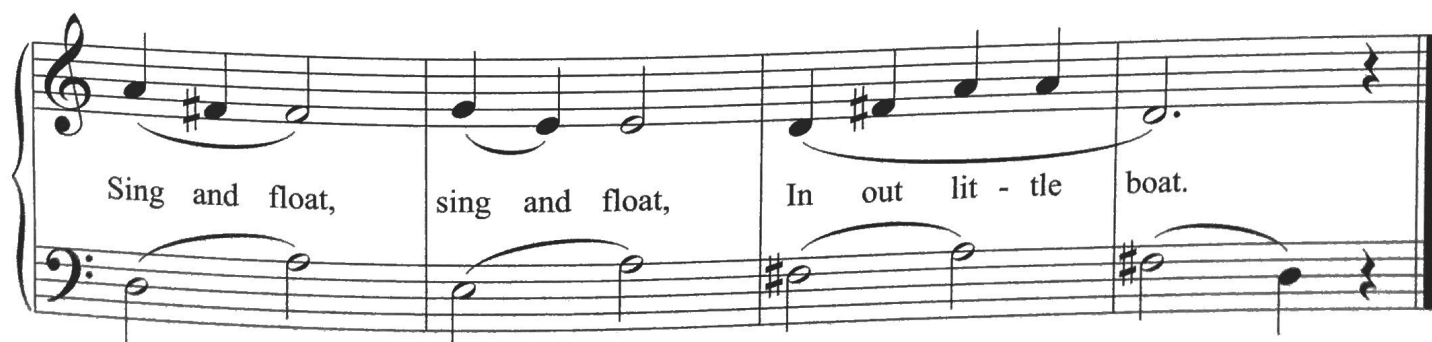
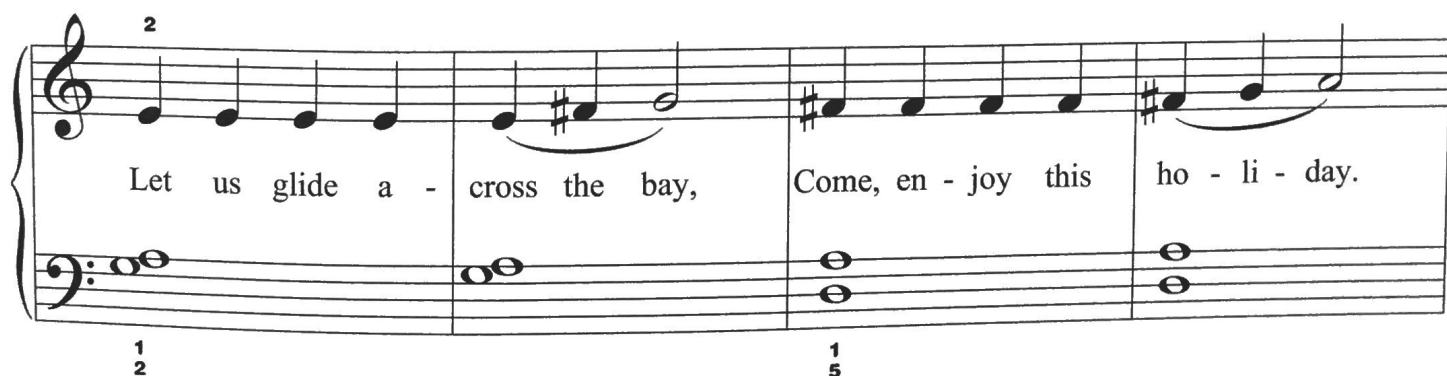
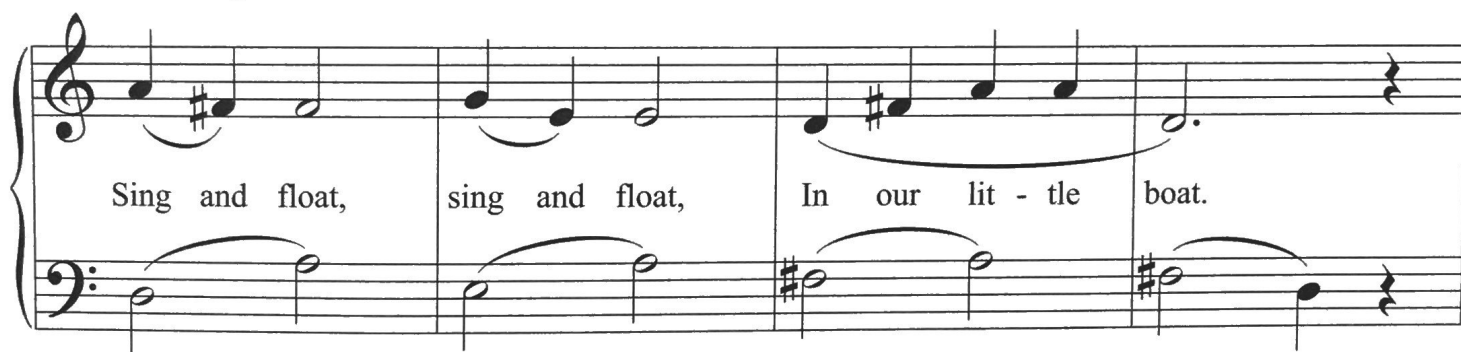
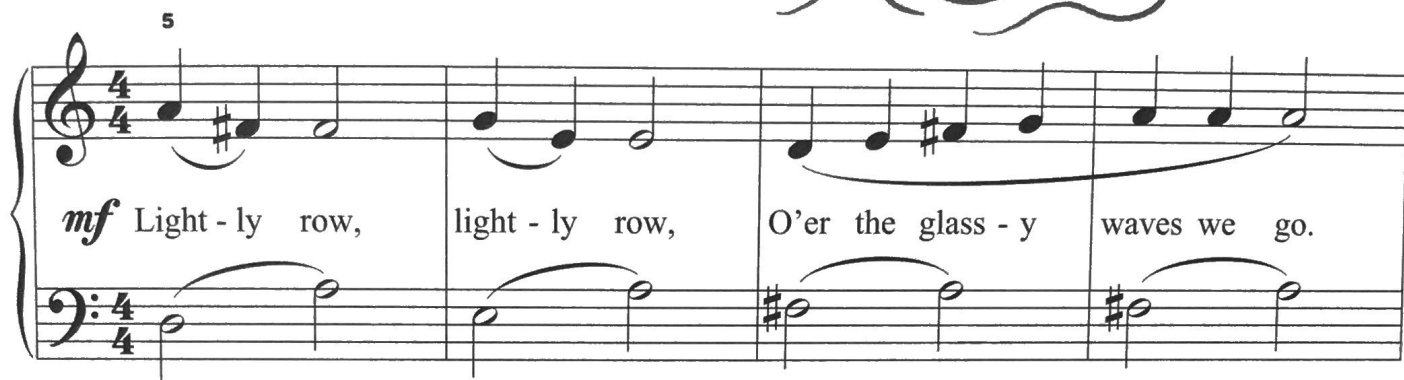
Keep out the sun. Win - ter is fun!

**SKILL BUILDER:** You may also play this piece with all Fs, instead of F#s.  
Did you change the mood?



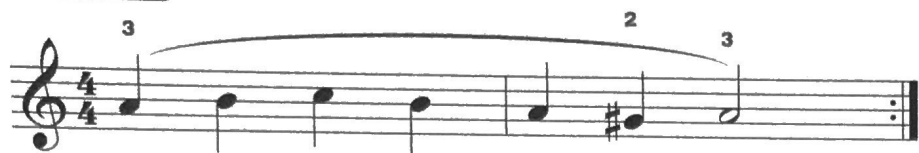
# Lightly Row

Gently moving [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

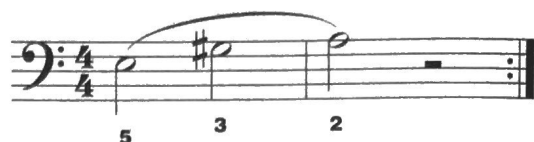


# WARM-UP:

## Right Hand



## Left Hand



# No School Today

Moderately slow [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

I'm in bed, no school to - day, I'm ail rest - ing  
Tucked be - neath my Gran-ny's quilt I'm rest - ing,

I'm a - fraid my health is real - ly fail - ing.  
Ice-cream cones is all that I'm re - quest - ing.

(very weakly)  
Please bring me two.

● Write in the letter names of the notes.

G

Left Hand

WARM-UP:



NEW NOTE

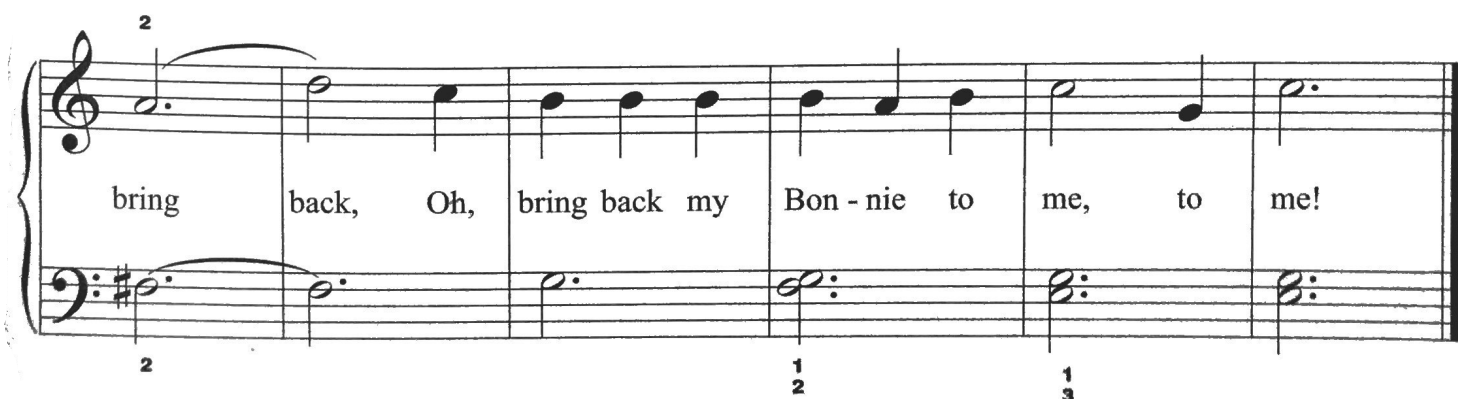
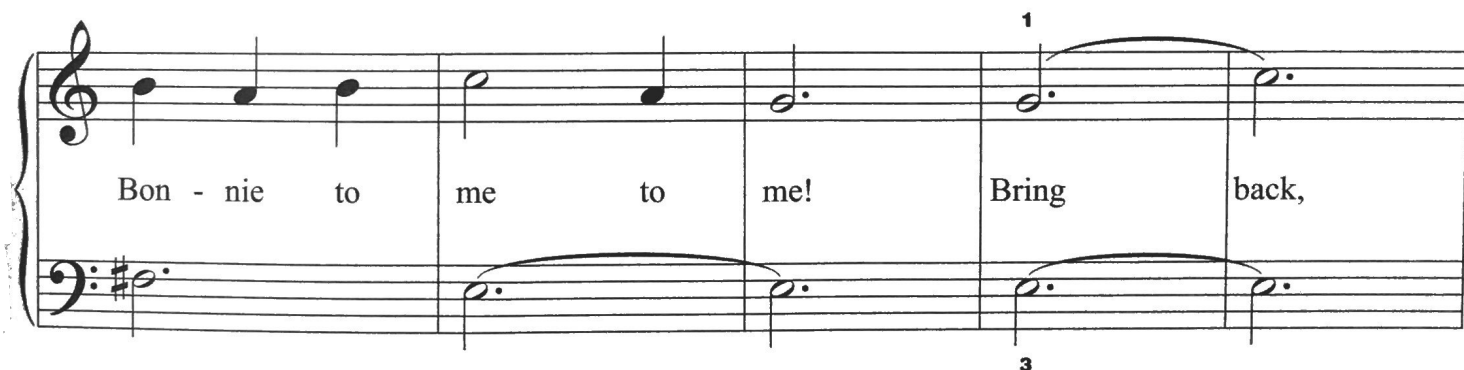
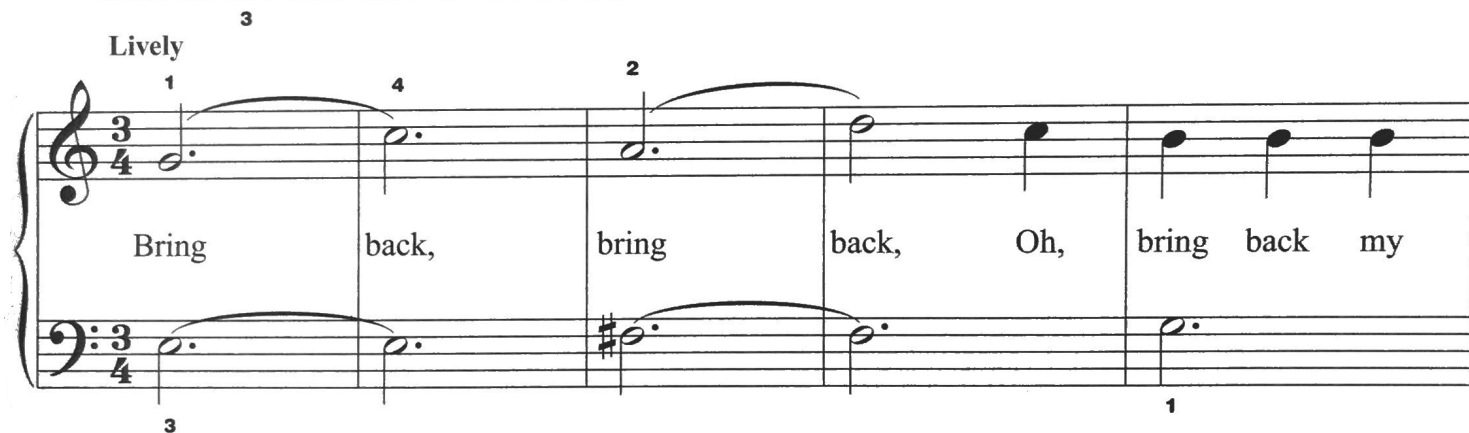
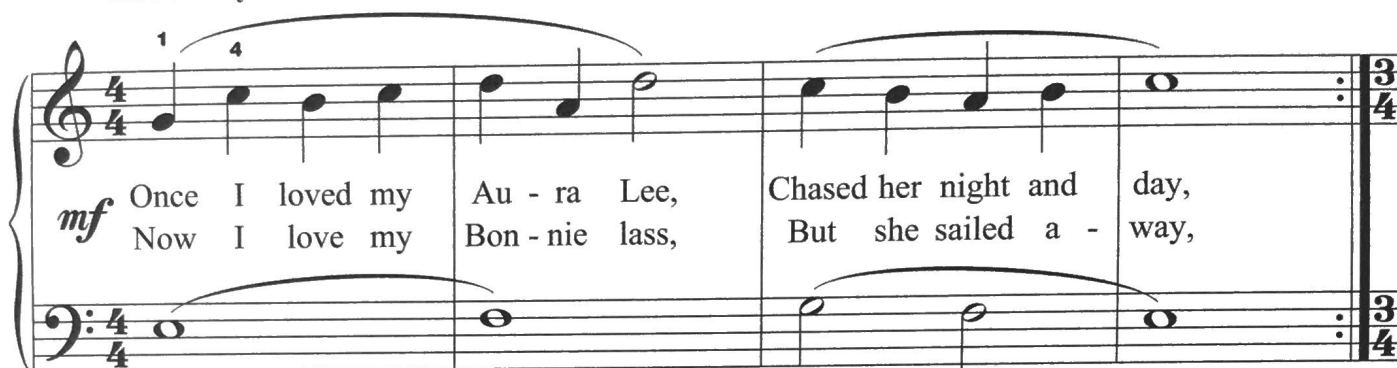


# The Ballad Of Sad Sam

Moderately

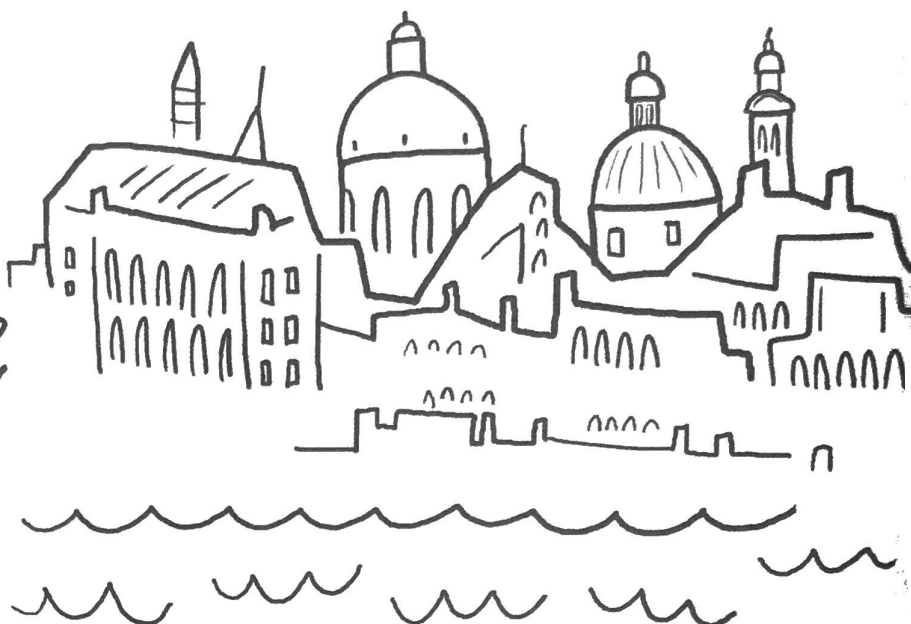
[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Traditional Tunes



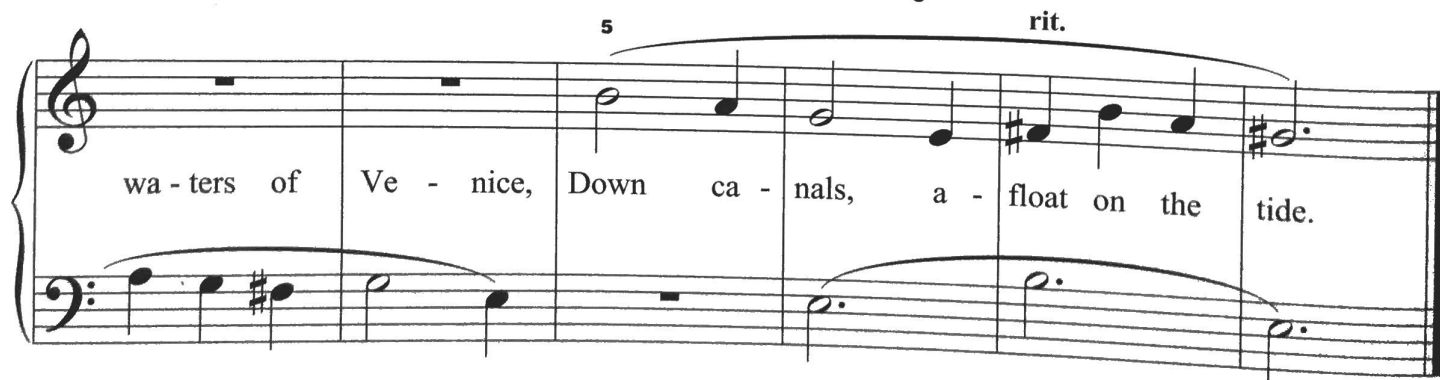
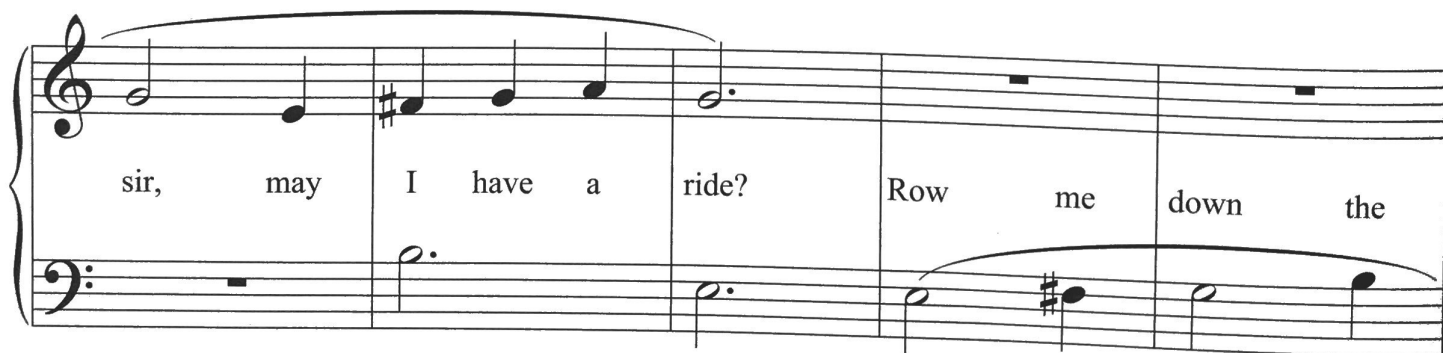
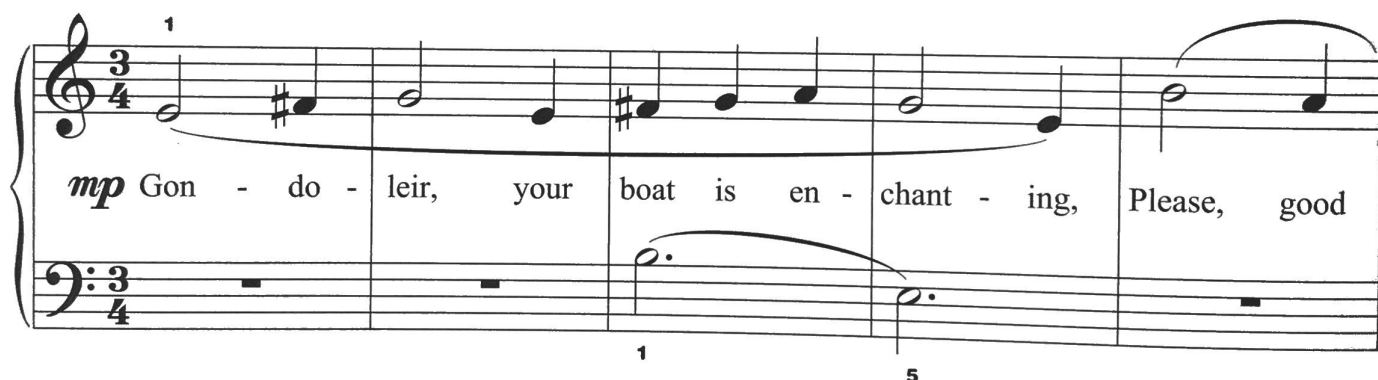


*rit.* = Ritardando = gradually slower  
*mp* = Mezzo Piano = medium soft



## The Gondolier

Slowly floating [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



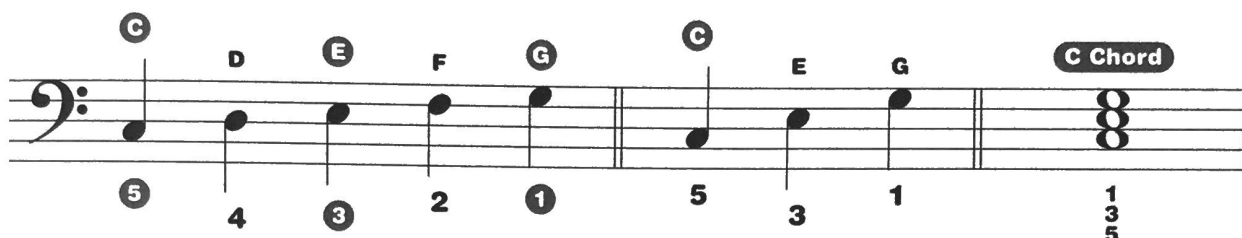
# CHORDS

Three notes played together form a **chord**. There are various types of chords.

- Place your right hand on the keyboard in a five-finger position, with the first finger on any white key. With fingers 1-3-5 strike three keys together in doing so you play the simplest type of chord, called a **triad**.



This is how you find the **C** chord (for the left hand).



Also play an **F** chord and a **G** chord.

- With the right hand play a **C** chord, an **F** chord, and a **G** chord.



## Old Woman

Moderato [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Play Tune

*f* Old wo - man, old wo - man, Would you like to mar - ry me?

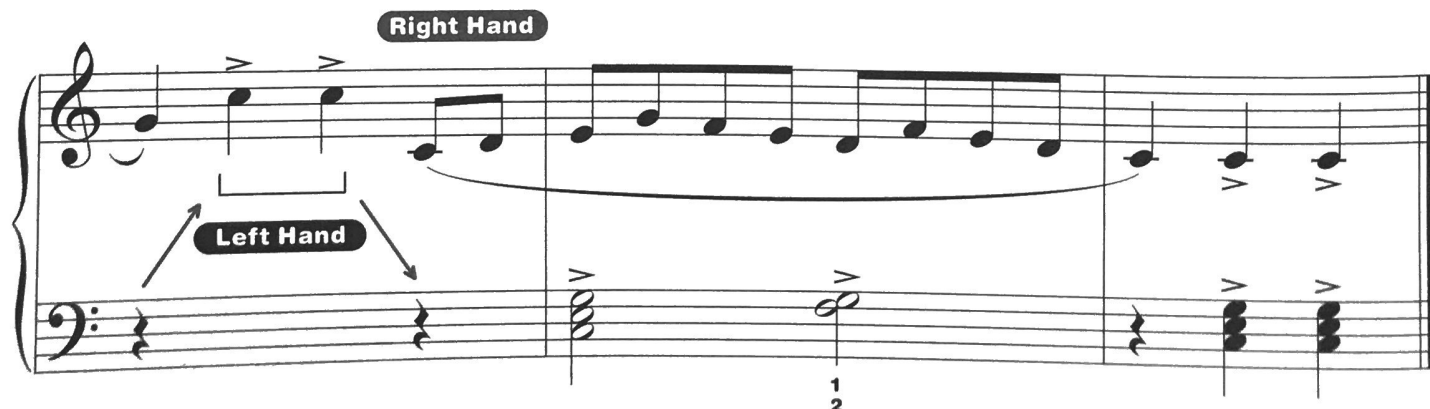
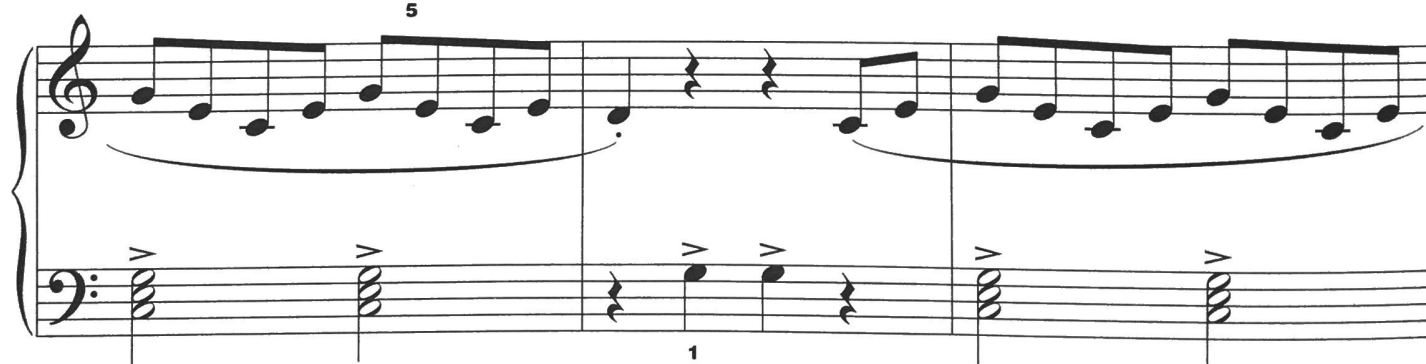
*mp* Oh, good - ness, Why should I? I am nine - ty - three!

**SKILL BUILDER:** Play **C**, **F** and **G** chords, with each hand, in different octaves.

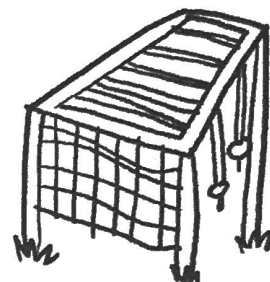
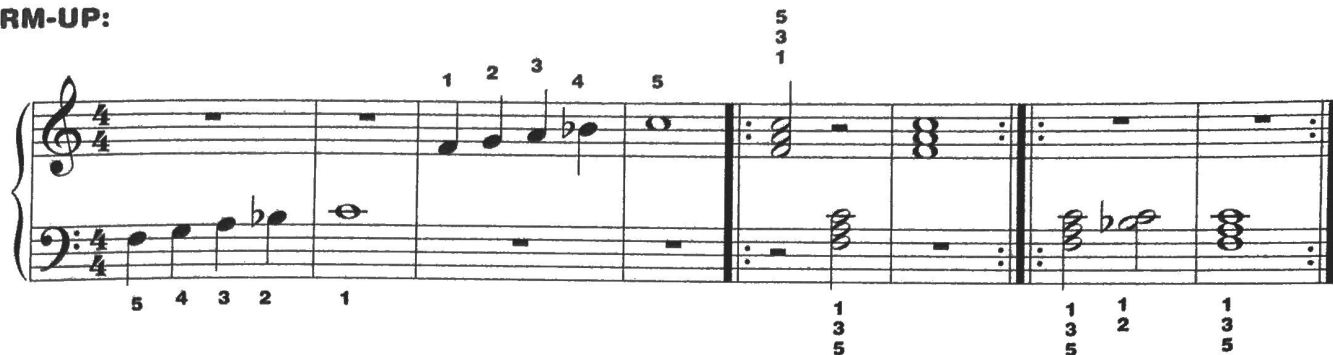


## Sailors' Dance

Lively [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



# WARM-UP:

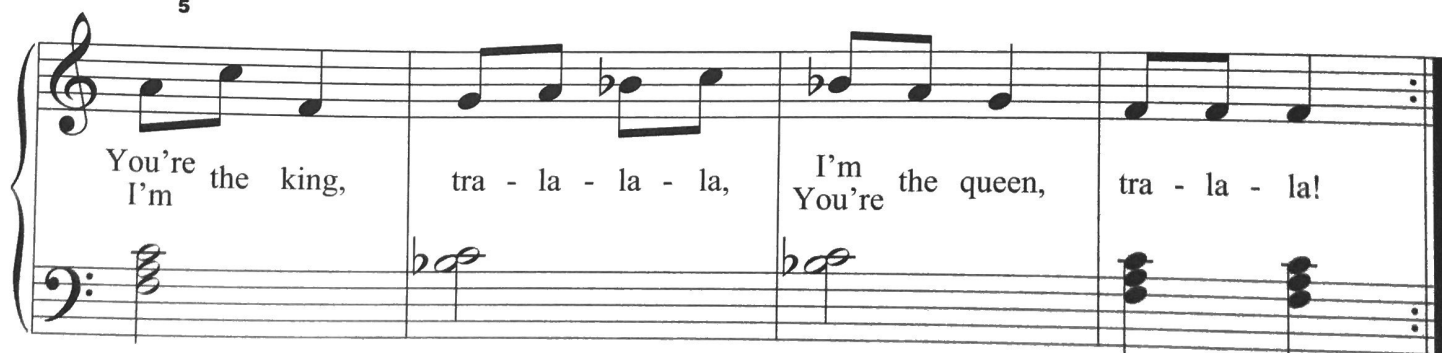
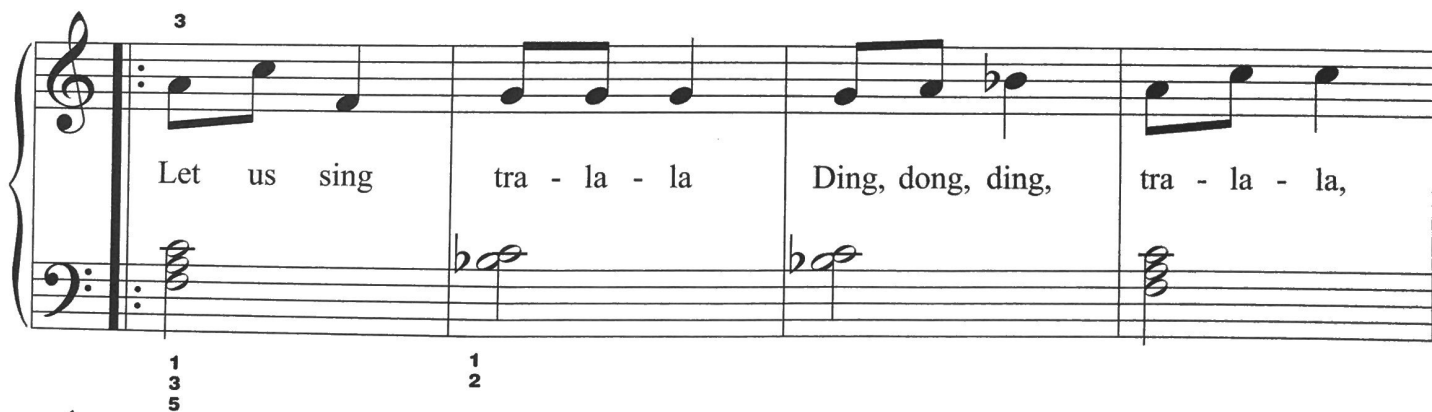
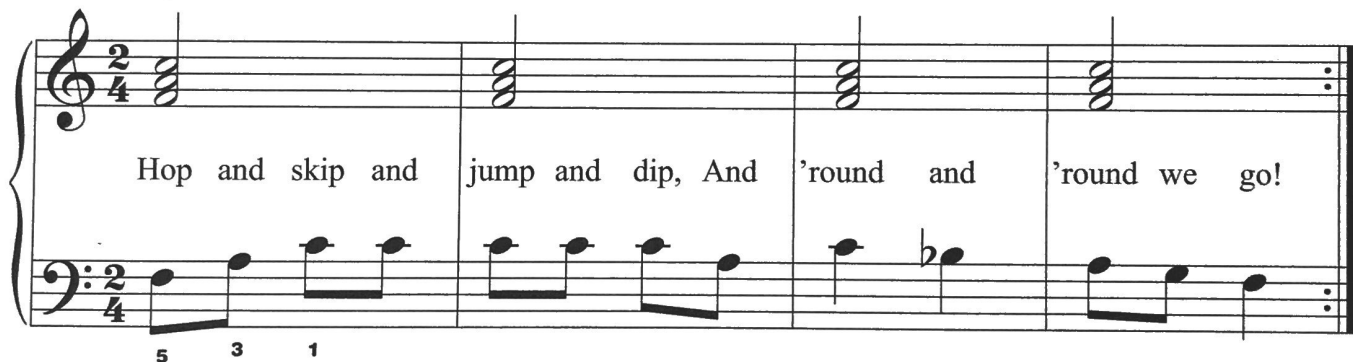


## On The Playground

Lively  $\frac{5}{3}$   
1

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Slovak Play Tune

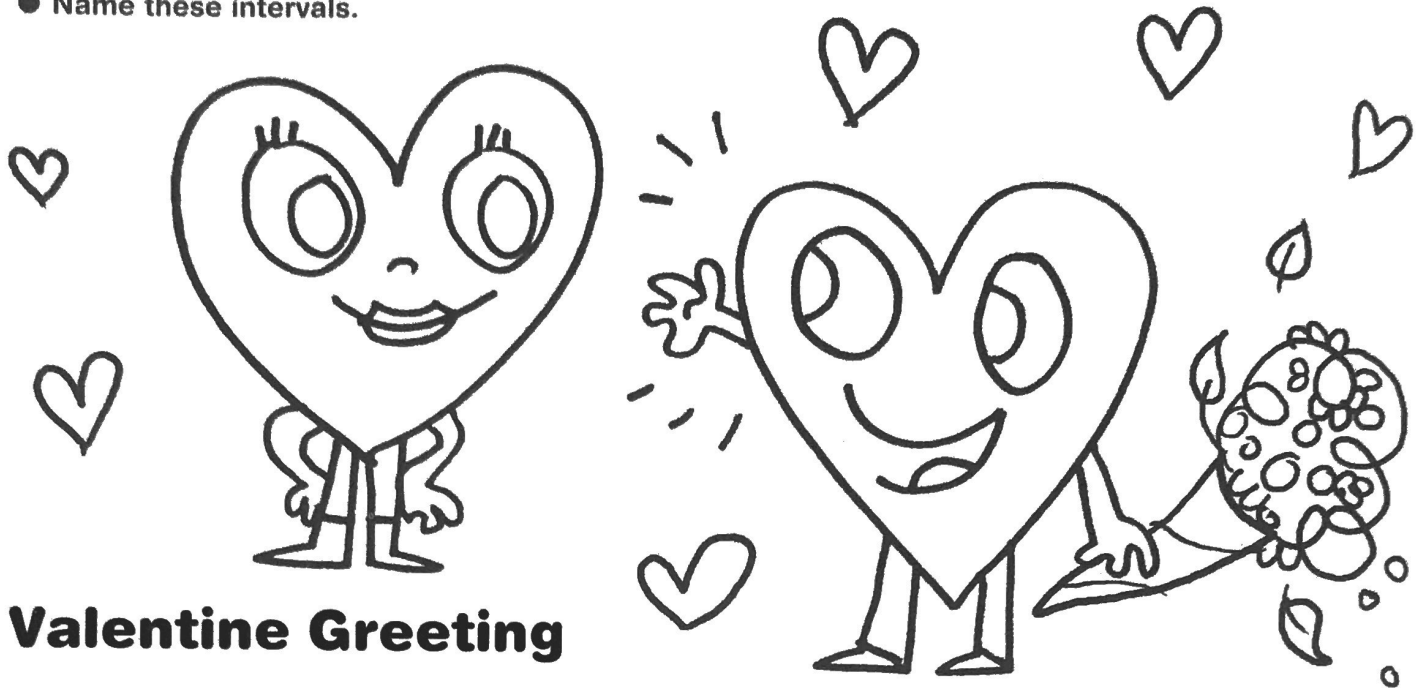


**Right Hand**

**WARM-UP:**

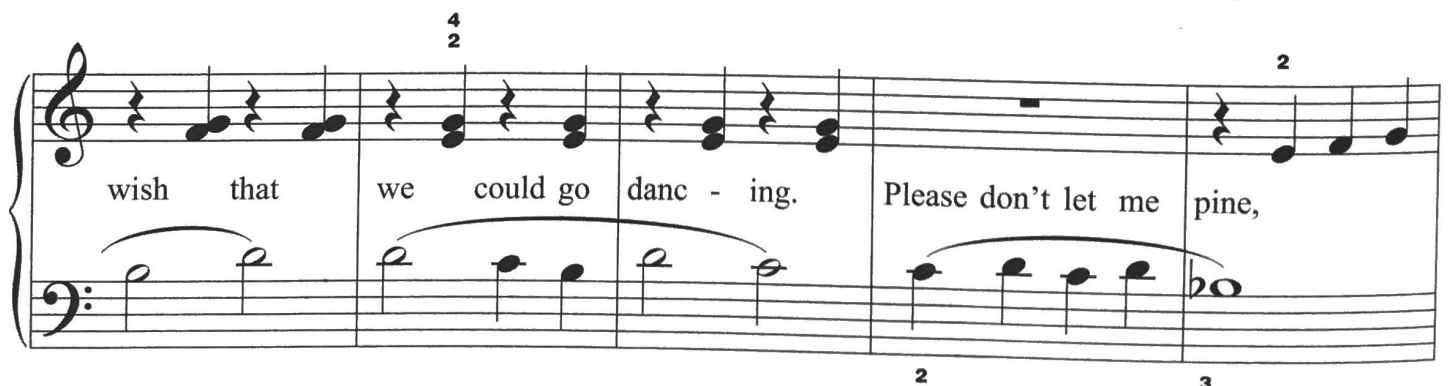
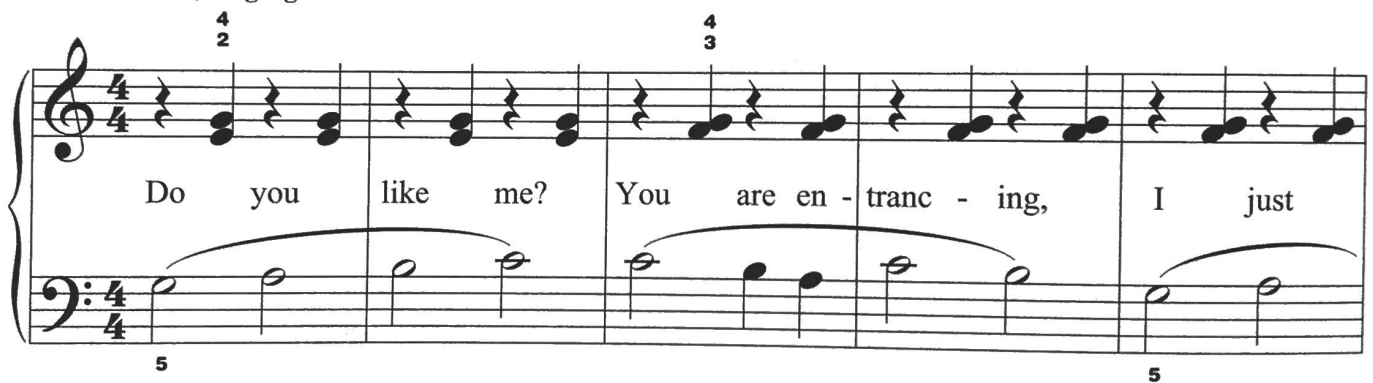


● Name these intervals.



# Valentine Greeting

In a slow, singing manner [www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)



..... 1. Each of these notes is a **D**.



..... 2. Two **quavers**  have the same time value as one **crotchet**.



..... 3. The opposite of **legato** is **staccato**.

..... 4. Each of these **intervals** is a **3rd**.



..... 5. A piece always starts on the first beat of a **bar** (measure).

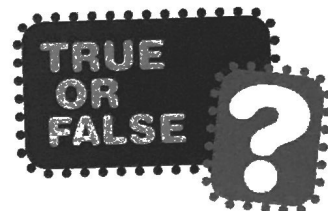
..... 6. This curved line is a **tie**.



..... 7. One of these **bars** has a beat missing.

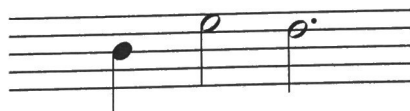


..... 8. This is a **crotchet** (quarter) **rest**.



## DIRECTIONS OF STEMS

Notes on or above the middle (third) line have stems pointing down, touching the notehead on the left side.



Notes below the middle (third) line have stems pointing up, touching the notehead on the right side.



Draw stems for the following notes:






# Tricks In Black And White

Moderate walking tempo

Musical score for 'Tricks In Black And White' in 4/4 time. The piece is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The melody consists of a series of eighth notes: G4 (finger 5), A4 (finger 4), B4 (finger 3), C5 (finger 2), D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, A6, B6, C7. The bass line consists of a series of eighth notes: G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F#1, E1, D1. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

The natural sign  cancels a sharp or a flat. When you see the sign in front of a note, you play the original white key.

Musical score for 'Autumn Is Coming' in 3/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The melody consists of a series of quarter notes: G4 (finger 1), A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, A6, B6, C7. The bass line consists of a series of quarter notes: G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F#1, E1, D1. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

## Autumn Is Coming

Rather slow, moody

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Musical score for 'Autumn Is Coming' in 3/4 time. The piece is marked *p* (piano). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The melody consists of a series of quarter notes: G4 (finger 4), A4 (finger 5), B4 (finger 4), C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, A6, B6, C7. The bass line consists of a series of quarter notes: G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F#1, E1, D1. The lyrics are: "Au - tumn is com - ing, clear and cold. Leaves will be fall - ing, red and gold." The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Musical score for 'Autumn Is Coming' in 3/4 time. The piece is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The melody consists of a series of quarter notes: G4 (finger 2), A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, A6, B6, C7. The bass line consists of a series of quarter notes: G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F#1, E1, D1. The lyrics are: "Wind sends them fly - ing, see them take wing," The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Musical score for 'Autumn Is Coming' in 3/4 time. The piece is marked *p* (piano). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The melody consists of a series of quarter notes: G4 (finger 5), A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, A6, B6, C7. The bass line consists of a series of quarter notes: G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F#1, E1, D1. The lyrics are: "But they'll grow back and be green in the spring." The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

# CHANGING HAND POSITIONS

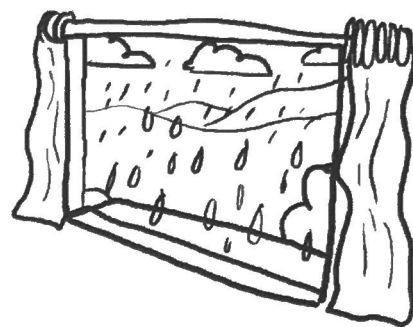
Right Hand 1

Right Hand 2

Left Hand



## Raindrops On The Windowpane



Playfully moving

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

3

*mf* Tip - toe through the gar - den in a show - er.

3

Care - ful now, don't step up - on a flow - er.

③ new hand position for right hand

*f* Then we'll hear the rain

3

*p* on the win - dow pane;

3

1

*mf* Pat - ter, pit - ter pat - ter, what a nice re - frain.

3

3

4



# Song Of Brotherhood

With fervor and warmth

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

**Change position** ① 1 3 5 1 2

*f* Let us give thanks for our loved ones and friends,

Let us be grate - ful that hope nev - er ends.

**Change position** ⑤ 1 3 5 1 2

Peace be - tween peo - ple, yes, peace is the way.

**Change position** ① 1 3 5 1 2

If we keep try - ing we'll find it some day.

# WARM-UP:

## Right Hand

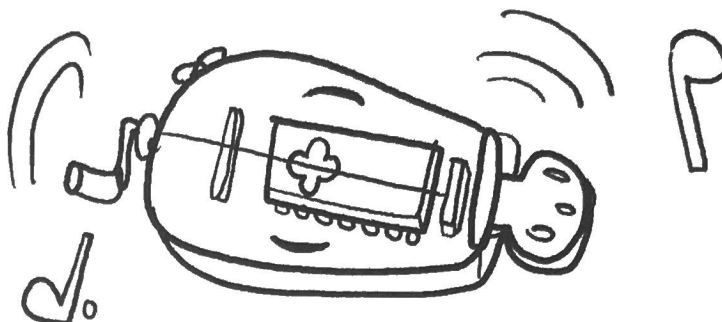


## Left Hand



# The Hurdy-Gurdy Man

Merrily [www.desart.sk](http://www.desart.sk)



*mf* The Hur - dy - Gur - dy Man is down the street. He

is a jol - ly man you'd want to meet. His

mon - key dan - ces like an ac - ro - bat, and

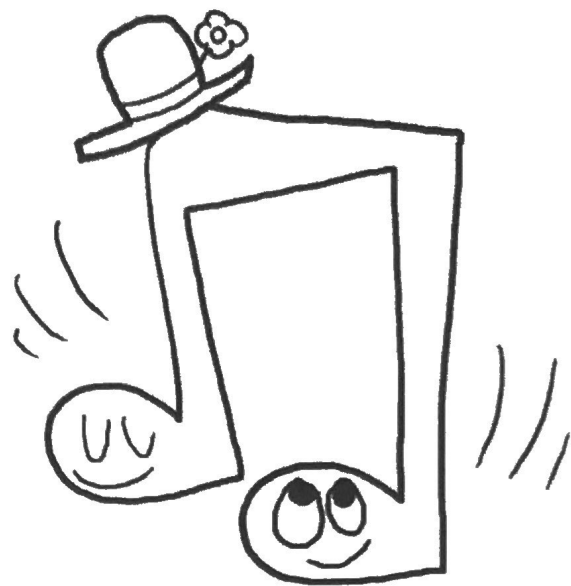
then you drop your pen - ny in his hat.

*may be repeated*

# PEDAL

The right pedal of the piano, when depressed, sustains the sound. Depress the pedal silently with the ball of your right foot (the heel stays on the floor).

Pedal Sign    Press    Hold    Lift



## Recital Waltz

Lively

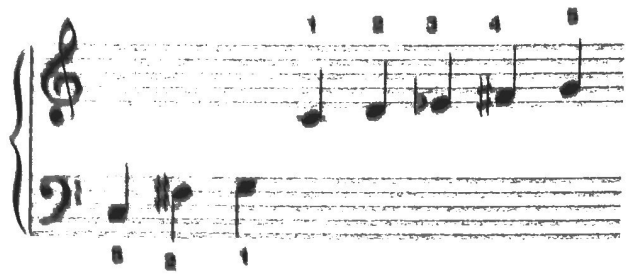
[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

1. 2. 5

*p*

*mf*

1 5 2



# Junior Boogie

[www.desart.sk](http://www.desart.sk)

Moderately, with a strong beat





**Crescendo** or (*cres.*) (kre-shen-do) = gradually louder  
**Diminuendo** or (*dim.*) (de-me-noo-en-do) = gradually softer



## At A Gypsy Campfire

Slowly, with feeling

[www.desart.sk](http://www.desart.sk)

1. 2.

*mp* *f*

*p* *crescendo* *mf*

1 2 1 2 1 5

5 3 1

**Left Hand** **NEW NOTE** **Right Hand**

D C B A G

**HAND POSITIONS:**

**Left Hand**

**WARM-UP:**



## Zulu War Chant

[www.deseart.sk](http://www.deseart.sk)

Vigorous jungle beat

*Fine (end)*

*f* Aye-ze-ka zoom-ba, zoom-ba, zoom-ba, Aye-ze-ka zoom-ba, zoom-ba - ay,

Hail the Zu - lu war-ri - or! Hail the Zu - lu chief!

Repeat from start to Fine  
(with repetition)

**Accent Mark:** > stress the note.

**Bar:** the segment of music between two

*Barlines* on the Stave.

**Barlines:** vertical lines dividing the stave into *bars* (measures).

**Bass Clef:**  indicates lower notes on the stave, usually played by the left hand.

**Chord:** three notes played together.

**Crescendo** (*cresc.*): gradually louder.

**Crotchet** (*quarter-note*):  (one count).

**Diminuendo** (*dim.*): gradually softer.

**Dotted Minim** (*half-note*):  (three counts).

**Double Barline:** indicates the end of a piece.

***f* forte:** loud.

**F Clef:** another name for the *Bass Clef*.

**Fine:** (*fee-nay*) the end.

**Flat:**  lowers the note by a *semitone*.

**Forte:** loud.

**G Clef:** another name for the *Treble Clef*.

**Grand Stave:** a Treble Stave and a Bass Stave connected by a vertical line and a brace (bracket).


**Interval:** the distance between two notes.

**Legato:** smooth, connected manner of playing; marked by a *Slur*.

**Letter names of the keys:** A B C D E F G (the musical alphabet).

***mf* mezzo forte:** medium loud.

**Middle C:** the white key just to the left of the two black keys in the middle of the keyboard.

**Minim:**  (two counts).

***mp* mezzo piano:** medium soft.

**Natural Sign:**  cancels a *Sharp* or a *Flat*.

**Note:** a written symbol representing a *tone*.

**Note Value:** the duration or length of a *note*.

**Octave:** the interval of eight notes (both notes of the interval have the same letter name).

***p* piano:** soft.




**Pedal:** part of the piano mechanism which, when depressed by the right foot, sustains the sound.

**Phrase:** a melody unit, usually two to four bars in length.

**Piano:** soft.

**Quaver** (*eighth-note*):  (one half count).

**Repeat Sign:**  means repeat the preceding section.

**Rest Signs:**  Crotchet (quarter) rest.  
 Minim (half) rest.  Semibreve (whole) rest.

**Rhythm:** the sound pattern formed by a group of notes and pauses of various lengths.

**Ritardando** (*rit.*): gradually slower.

**Semitone:** the distance between one key and the very next key, black or white.

**Semibreve** (*whole-note*):  (four counts).

**Sharp:**  raises the note by a *semitone*.

**Skip:** when notes skip from a line to the next line, or from a space to the next space.

**Slur:** a curved line over or under a note group, indicating *Legato*.


**Staccato** (*stacc.*): a detached manner of playing, indicated by a dot over or under the note.

**Step:** when notes move stepwise from a space to the next line or from a line to the next space.

**Tempo:** the rate of speed in music.

**Tie:** a curved line connecting two neighbouring notes on the same line or in the same space.

**Time Signature:** two numbers written at the beginning of a piece, indicating the number of beats in a *bar* and the type of *note* that gets one count.

**Treble Clef:**  indicates higher notes, usually played by the right hand.

**Triad:** a *chord* consisting of three notes; the root (lowest note), with the intervals of the 3rd and the 5th.



# DENES AGAY'S LEARNING TO PLAY PIANO

The classic children's introduction to piano in a brand new edition!

## BOOK 1 GETTING STARTED!

COMPLETE WITH  
FUN STICKERS



# 1