

LEVEL 1



Level 1 Concepts

- reading across the grand staff
- 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th, and octave
- half steps, sharps and flats
- tonic and dominant notes
- legato and staccato touches
- quarter, half, and whole rests
- C and G 5-finger scales
- I and V7 chords in C and G

The Bubble
5-Finger Scale

Eye Check: Can you play this entire piece, except the last measure, without looking at your hands?

With excitement *mf*

Words by Crystal Burman

I blew a green bubble while showing toes to day. It stretched out wide before it popped. I'm real - ly pleased to say. Gum got on my cheeks and in my nose and hair. My Gummy - thing was pink - ish blue. I did - n't care. My

Teach with...Analysis

Begin pieces with an analysis of various musical elements. The student might name the 5-finger scale used, find a rhythm pattern, or discover why a *forte* dynamic makes musical sense. Begin to use the word “analyze” at lessons and compliment students for good thinking!

“Michael, can you discover the 5-finger scale used for this piece?”

“Emily, let’s analyze. Does the L.H. begin on the tonic or the dominant note?”

Teach with...Creativity

Creative activities engage students and bring smiles. Short creative forays at the lesson allow the student’s personality to emerge, reinforce theory skills, and are fun to do!

“David, will you read the words as I demonstrate the piece? Then choose your own dynamic marks to write in the boxes.”

“Megan, will you write the last sentence of Legend of the Buffalo to complete the story?”

Teach with...Expression

Use technique secrets with imaginative similes to draw students into the music.

“Patrick, imagine your left hand is weightless—as if it was in outer space! Let it float up and over your right hand for the final E.”

“Melissa, pretend your fingers are astronauts skipping over the craters. Keep firm fingertips as you travel.”

ARTISTRY MAGIC

Different DYNAMICS (*p*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*) help to make a piece interesting.

In this piece, you can choose the dynamics.

- First, read the words and play the music.
- Then write dynamic marks in the boxes given.
- Now play the piece and enjoy your version of Legend of the Buffalo!

With spirit *mf*

Legend of the Buffalo

The ground shakes as a herd of buffalo run.

The sound echoes from the hills.

Teacher Note: (Student photo as written) Now, follow the dynamic marks chosen by the student.

FACE the Treble Spaces

The space notes on the treble staff spell the word FACE.

Find the F key just above Middle C.
Play and say the treble space notes F A C E.
Did you skip or slip?

Skipping in Space

Steady

mf

mf

L.H. 2 over to E.

mf

Can you play this piece with a L.H. cross-over to F? Cross-over to A? To C?

