

PRIMER LEVEL

Teacher Guide



New!



LESSON BOOK

Sightreading



New!

Flashcards



I Can Read Music Book 1



Technique & Artistry



Theory

Performance



PreTime® Piano Primer Supplementary Series



Popular



Gold Star Performance



Popular Repertoire



Christmas



DuetTime® Christmas



Achievement Solo & Duet Sheets

- Bluebird on My Shoulder (duet)
- Jesus Is My Friend
- Once I Caught a Fish
- Particularly Pleasing Piano Piece
- Pete, the Repeat Bird
- Pony Express
- Wee Small Bear
- Zoom, Zoom, Witch's Broom



Classics



Favorites



Rock 'n Roll



Jazz & Blues



Hymns



Kids' Songs



Christmas



Pre-Reading Christmas

Primer Concepts

- hand position and finger numbers
- note values (♩, ♪, ♫, ♮)
- key names: A B C D E F G
- steps and skips on the staff
- staff notes: Bass C to Treble G
- 4/4 and 3/4 time signatures
- the quarter rest
- the tie

Teach with...Analysis

Always look for patterns! From the earliest lessons, encourage the student to think beyond the notes. Be “music detectives.” Give clues to build musical awareness.

“David, pretend you work for the Allegro Detective Agency. Draw one big circle around measures 1 and 2. Next, investigate the notes and circle the same pattern again. Good!”

Teach with...Creativity

Beginning students are especially receptive to creative activities at their piano lessons. These can add delight and reinforce important concepts.

“Did you know that an elephant can weigh up to 16,000 pounds? Let’s try the song very low, starting on the lowest G. Play slowly on firm fingertips. Imagine the elephant’s heavy, 2-ton legs.”

Teach with...Expression

Expression begins with listening. Sharing a conversation that personalizes the piece can enhance listening and musical expression.

“Olivia, have you ever seen a beautiful sunset?

Where were you? Let’s pretend that each E for the R.H. is the sunset color fading from brilliant forte to soft piano. Use your arm weight to drop into the key. Use less arm weight as the sound fades to piano. Keep listening!”

Allegro
(Allegro is the Italian word for fast and lively.)

Reading Check: Notice the R.H. begins with the down-stroke and skips UP. The L.H. also begins with the down-stroke and skips DOWN.

Marco Giulliani
(1781-1829, Italy) adapted

Fast and lively

Teacher Duet: (Student plays 1 octave higher)

Circle at least 8 skips in this piece. Hint: Don't forget to look over the bar lines!

More About Skips

Review: A skip is from a LINE to the next LINE.
NEW: A skip is also from a SPACE to the next SPACE.

skip up skip down

Elephant Ride

Mervyn

Teacher Duet: (Student plays 1 octave higher)

Circle the measures that match measure 1. For fun, play LOW, i.e. i-o-w-i-y, and forte. (Play that high.)

Artistry Magic!

A pianist with artistry can play one hand piece and the other hand piece.

1. First, say the name of each dynamic mark in the piece aloud before playing.

2. Now play and listen for forte, mezzo-forte, and piano sounds on the keyboard!

Peaceful Sunset

Hold the right-foot pedal (damper pedal) down throughout the piece.

Teacher Duet: (Student plays 1 octave higher)

Hold the right-foot pedal (damper pedal) down throughout the piece.

rather slowly

most higher E

most higher E

left hand: as softly as possible

ARTISTRY

