

Piano **suite** Classroom

Chapter 1: Lesson 2

Chapter 1: Introductory Theory, The Treble Clef, Bar Lines, Note Values, Rests, & The Bass Clef

Lesson 2

This lesson plan was written for use with Piano Suite Premier software, and is intended as a guideline and procedure for 1 week (5 hours) of music instruction. For specific information on Piano Suite Premier and how to purchase, please visit one of the following links:

<http://www.adventus.com/purchase/premier.html>

<http://www.adventus.com/purchase/bundle.html>

Lesson Overview

- The student will review the skills /concepts which were introduced in lesson one.
- The student will use new sections (theory games) of the program to reinforce these skills/concepts.
- The student will also learn to play three new songs by locating the notes on the piano keyboard for each song with the assistance of the “Wait For Note” method.

New Vocabulary

whole note, half note, quarter note, eighth note. sixteenth note

New Material

Theory:

1-2: Bar Lines and Note Values

Songs:

“Here We Go in a Row (2)” (right hand only)

“Lightly Row (2)” (right hand only)

Review Material

Theory:

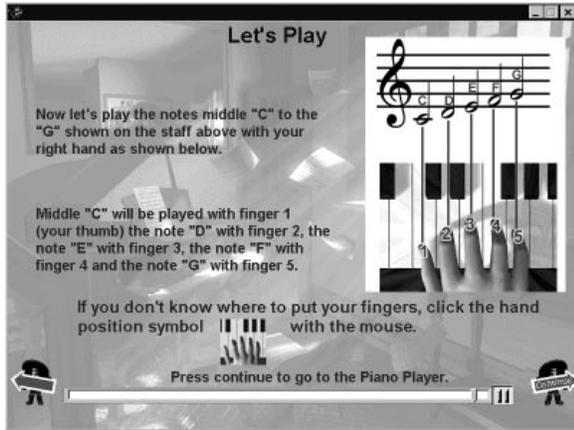
1-1: The Treble or “G” Clef

Songs:

“Old Grey Goose (1)”

Procedure

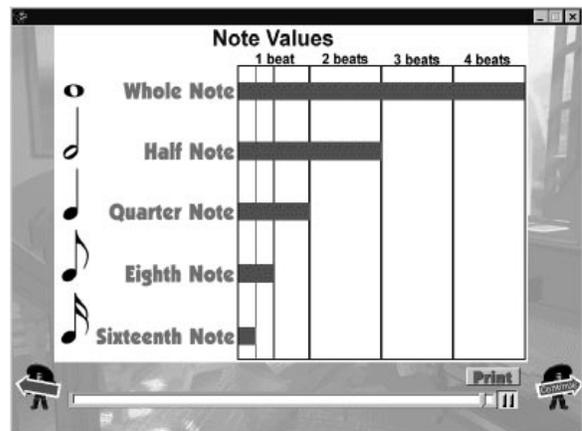
Open the Theory Thinker section of Piano Suite and review the following: Theory Topic 1-1: The Treble or “G” Clef.



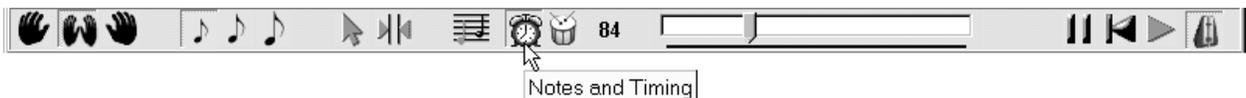
Click on the theory game “Key Quest”. If you find it difficult to find a specific note or several notes, click on “Settings” at the top of the game and select a particular note to be practiced. When this note can be found easily on the piano keyboard, proceed to another note. Once you can easily find each note on the individual note setting, select “No Restriction” in settings and try again. After four to five minutes, proceed to the next part of this lesson. If you are not proceeding through this section with ease within a couple of weeks, go back to review Theory Lesson I-4 (all pages) which explains how to locate notes on the keyboard.

You will now view the theory pages found within Theory Topic 1-2: Bar Lines and Note Values. Practice each of the piano exercises using the “Notes and Timing” method until you can achieve a score of 85 % (or higher).

Make sure to practice the following exercises in the last page of this topic (page xix) using the “Wait for Note’ method, and then using the “Notes and Timing” method: Practice Exercises 1- 10.



To use the “Notes and Timing” method, click on the button which has a picture of a clock on it. You can then select the tempo (speed of the music) by sliding the tempo slider to the left for a slower tempo, and to the right for a faster tempo. Press any key on the piano keyboard to start the metronome countdown.



Open the Piano Player and choose one of the following songs: “Here We Go In A Row (2)”, or “Lightly Row (2)”. Choose right hand only and begin practicing the song using the “Wait For Note” method. This song should be practiced until a score of “Good Work” or better can be achieved. If a score of “Good Work” can be made consistently, attempt to achieve a higher score on this song and/or begin to learn the song above which was not already chosen.

Indicators of Success

- You can play the piano exercises and songs and achieve a score of “Good Work” (or better) using the “Wait For Note” method.
- You can press the correct keys on the piano keyboard when playing the games “Key Quest” and “Word Play” and get 9 out of 10 answers correct.
- You achieve a score of 85 % (or higher) when practicing the exercises in this lesson using the “Notes and Timing” method.

Interactive Games

Play the theory game “Word Play” and have fun while learning the names for each key on the keyboard. You will find this game in the theory thinker. It is located on the top row of games and is on the far right.

Hints

* When practising using the “Wait For Note” method, make sure that you look at the notes on the staff after positioning the hands initially. You do not want to develop a bad habit of looking at your fingers when you are playing. If you find it difficult not to look at your fingers, practice with your hands covered by a sheet of paper. Don’t worry, it gets easier as you practice!

* If you have a problem proceeding through a song using the Wait for Note method, you may have held down too many notes, or not enough notes for a position in the piece. It is also possible that you need to connect your keyboard properly to the computer, or turn your keyboard on. See the manual for keyboard installation, or start the program called ‘Keyboard Config Wizard’. Remember to plug the cable in correctly as per instructions (MIDI IN on the cable connects to MIDI OUT on the keyboard).

* In order to accelerate the learning of the note names on the staff, sing or say the note names as you press the corresponding key on the piano keyboard when practising a song or exercise. If extra help is needed, review the following theory pages:

- 'The Notation of Pitch'
- 'The Treble or G Clef'.

Also, playing the 'Single Staff Note Placement Game' located in the Theory thinker will help you learn the names of the notes when placed on the staff.