

# A Teacher's Guide



## **M is for Melody: A Music Alphabet**

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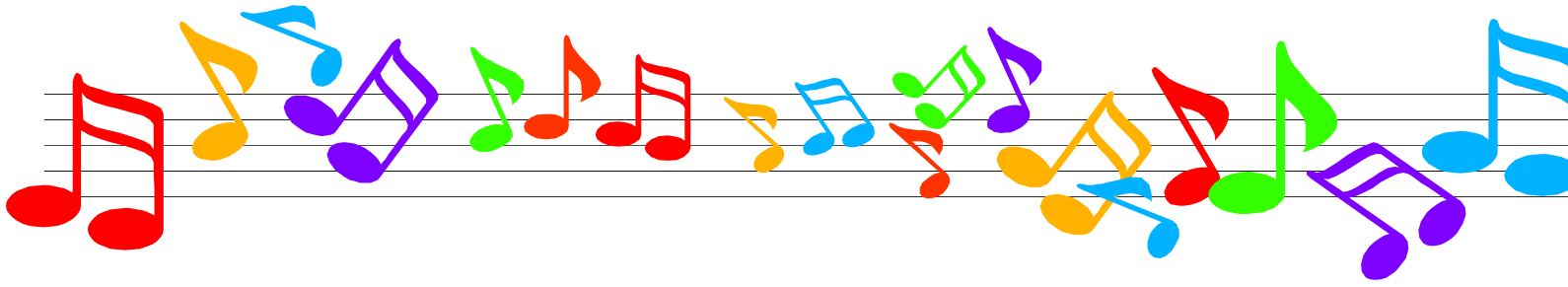
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## Famous Composers

A composer is a person who writes music. In *M is for Melody* you will find the names of several famous composers throughout the ages.

Below write the names of the composers who are mentioned in the book.

1. Classical composer \_\_\_\_\_
2. Classical composer \_\_\_\_\_
3. Woman composer \_\_\_\_\_
4. Woman composer \_\_\_\_\_
5. Contemporary composer \_\_\_\_\_

For extra credit, can you name three additional composers of music?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Name your favorite type of music \_\_\_\_\_

Compare your favorite music with three friends.

Are they different?



## Band Mix-Up

The members of your orchestra all woke up with amnesia and forgot in which music section they belonged. The book *M is for Melody* will help you put the members and their instruments in the right sections.

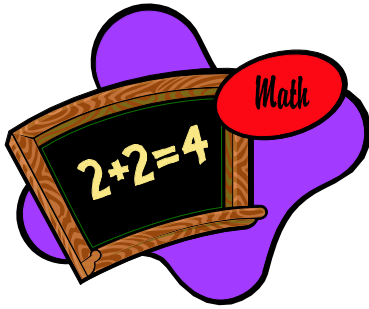
trumpet  
saxophone  
drum  
clarinet  
trombone  
violin  
cello  
bass  
French horn  
cymbals  
xylophone  
flute  
oboe

### BRASS

### WOODWINDS

### PERCUSSION

### STRINGS



## Melody Math

Music is filled with numbers. Surprised? Read *M is for Melody* and find all the ways numbers are a part of music. Then, try these musical number problems. Use the line space to show your work.

1. If a quartet met up with a trio and a duet, how many singers would you have? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Three trios of musicians went for a walk. Along the way they added four duets and a quintet. How many total musicians are on the walk? \_\_\_\_\_
3. The bus took six quintets and ten solo singers to the music festival. Parents picked up seven students. How many students rode the bus home? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Ten duets sang with seven quartets. How many singers were there? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Make up a problem of your own using melody math.

# MELODY HUNT



*M is for Melody* is a book in which you can learn many interesting facts about the world of music. Use this book to help you complete the following sentences.

1. A person who writes music is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The person who directs the orchestra is the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. This word, \_\_\_\_\_, tells you to sing or play loudly.
4. Name two musicians who made early music: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. A guitar has \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ number of strings.
6. The city of \_\_\_\_\_ is considered the birthplace of Jazz.
7. The piano and synthesizer belong to this family of instruments:  
\_\_\_\_\_.
8. The type of song that helps someone fall asleep is called a  
\_\_\_\_\_.
9. There are \_\_\_\_\_ (number of) beats in a bar of music.
10. A group of five people singing together is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

There's treasure in music!





## CROSSWORD MELODY

All the answers you will need to complete this crossword puzzle are in the book *M is for Melody*.

1.                    **m** \_ \_ \_ \_
2.                    \_ **e** \_ \_ \_
3.                    \_ **l** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
4. \_ \_ \_ **o** \_ \_ \_
5.                    \_ \_ **d** \_ \_
6.                    \_ \_ **y** \_ \_ \_

1. The way the beats of music are grouped together
2. The speed of the music
3. A popular woodwind instrument
4. A three-person singing group
5. Singing without words
6. The beat we hear and feel



## Alphabetizing the Orchestra

The orchestra's many instruments are described in the book *M is for Melody*. Read about the different instruments that make up an orchestra. Which instrument would you like to play?

Oops! Someone dropped the names of the instruments all over the stage. Can you arrange these instruments in alphabetical order?

saxophone tuba cornet trumpet  
French horn oboe piccolo bassoon  
violin cello xylophone cymbals

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_

# Which Does NOT Belong?

Three words in each group have something in common. There is one that does not belong. The book *M is for Melody* will help you with this activity. **Circle** the word that does not belong.

1. tuba      trumpet      saxophone      trombone
2. trio      duet      pair      quartet
3. allegro      largo      spumoni      presto
4. soprano      unison      alto      bass
5. flute      saxophone      clarinet      cornet
6. zither      guitar      harp      piano
7. dairy      jazz      ragtime      folk
8. anthem      march      ballad      note
9. Washington      McCartney      Beethoven      Mozart
10. medieval      musical      renaissance      baroque

# WHERE DID IT COME FROM ??

Did you ever wonder in what country the guitar was first started? Was it here in the United States, or maybe England? We can trace the origins of many musical instruments and songs in the book *M is for Melody*.

For each term below find the country where it came from. Write the name of the country.

1. spirituals \_\_\_\_\_

2. guitar \_\_\_\_\_

3. xylophone \_\_\_\_\_

4. yodeling \_\_\_\_\_

5. ragtime \_\_\_\_\_

6. early music \_\_\_\_\_

7. folk music \_\_\_\_\_

8. jazz \_\_\_\_\_



## Search **HIGH** and **LOW**

All the answers you will need for these questions are found in the book *M is for Melody*. You will need to search high and low to see if you are in tune! Have fun!!

Directions: write the answer in the blank next to each question.

1. Name the person who waves a baton high and low in the air.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Who is the high-stepping leader of a marching band? \_\_\_\_\_

3. When one group sings high and another sings the same song in a lower key, they are singing in \_\_\_\_\_.

4. This song is usually sung soft and low at night. \_\_\_\_\_

5. A drum with a low sound belongs to which family of instruments?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Composer of the high and low sounds of ragtime

\_\_\_\_\_

7. A person with high musical talent is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

8. Singing without words and making high and low noises is called

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Instrument that uses a mallet to hit both high and low notes

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Leading the Band

The leader of a marching band is called the drum major. To find out what a drum major does, read the D page of *M is for Melody*.

Make a list of all of the attributes you feel are necessary in a drum major.

### ATTRIBUTES

Write a want-ad for the position of drum major.



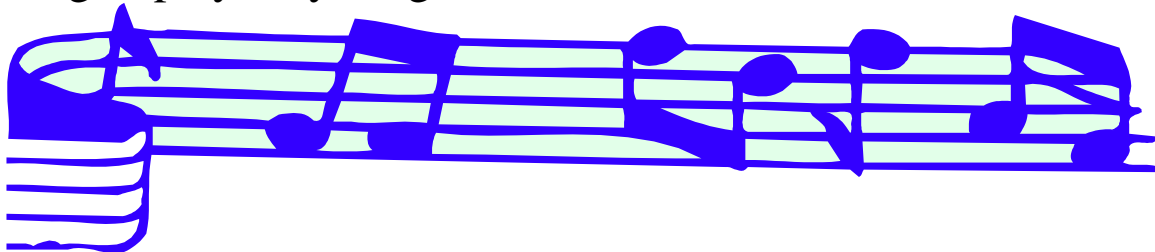
## Bottle Music

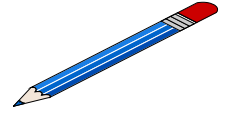
Did you ever hit a spoon against a glass and hear the ringing sound it makes? Did you know that you get different sounds out of your glass depending on how much water is in the glass?

### Directions

Get 5 identical glasses or glass bottles.  
Wash and thoroughly dry the glasses.  
Add food coloring to a pitcher of water.  
Fill the first glass with the water up to the rim.  
Fill the second glass  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way to the rim.  
Fill the third glass half way to the rim.  
Fill the fourth glass  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the way up to the rim.  
Leave the fifth glass empty.

Gently tap the side of each glass with a spoon and listen to the different sound each glass produces. Create a pattern or song to play on your glass instruments.





# Letter to the Editor

*M is for Melody* is a book that tells you about the importance of music in the lives of people. Try to imagine what life might be like without music.

Your local school board is planning to cut the entire music program from all the schools in the district. There will be no music classes at any grade level.

Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper stating your opinion on this topic. Remember to write sentences supporting your opinion.

Dear Editor,

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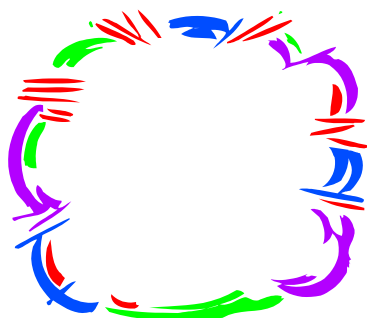


## Form a Kitchen Band

What is a kitchen band? Read all about them in the book *M is for Melody*.

Make a list of all the things around your house that could be used to make music. Be creative.

Get together with five or more friends and form your own kitchen band. Play a song you've created for your class. Were you surprised by all the different everyday things that could be used to make music?



## Is it NOISE or MUSIC?

What makes some sounds pleasant to hear and other sounds unpleasant? In *M is for Melody* you have learned interesting facts about music. Where did you learn about noise?

Draw a Venn diagram below.

Label one circle noise and one music.

Make sure your intersecting circle states what attributes both noise and music share.



## QUESTION THE MUSICIAN

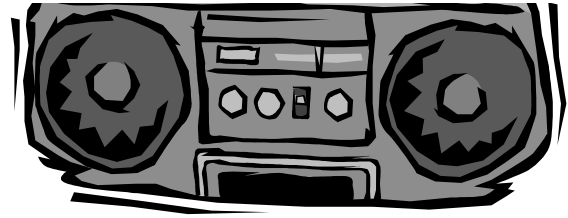
You will find many musicians and many different types of music in the book *M is for Melody*.

Choose a musician either from the book or a favorite musician of yours. Make a list of 10 questions you would ask this person about their music.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Write a short paragraph telling this musician why you like their music.

# I'VE GOT RHYTHM



It is important to keep time when you sing or play music. What we feel and hear is called rhythm. You can find rhythm patterns throughout nature. Learn more about rhythm in *M is for Melody*.

Try the following rhythm patterns

Slap-slap your thighs  
Clap-clap your hands  
Snap-snap your fingers

Pattern 1-slap slap, clap clap, snap snap repeat 4 times  
Pattern 2-slap clap snap slap clap snap slap slap repeat 4 times

Now write three rhythm patterns of your own.

Pattern 1

Pattern 2

Pattern 3

Exchange patterns with two friends and try all the different rhythm patterns.



# MY LIFE AS A MUSICIAN

*M is for Melody* describes many different types of music. Choose your favorite type of music and pretend that after many years of lessons and practice you have become a STAR!

Write a story about one of your adventures as a music star.

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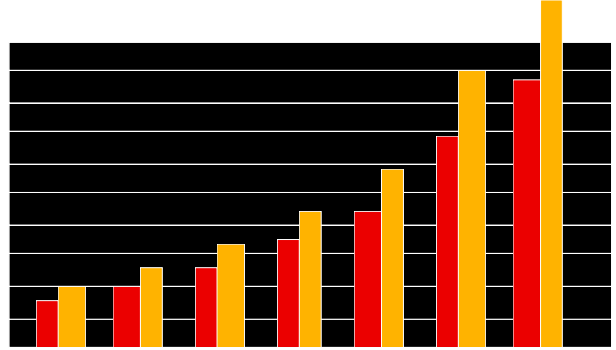
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# Music Survey



*M is for Melody* is a book that tells you many interesting facts about the world of music. Everyone has a favorite style of music they like to listen to and perhaps play.

Take a survey of your class and a class at a different grade level in your school and compare the likes and differences between the students.

## SURVEY

COUNTRY

ROCK AND ROLL

CLASSICAL

HIP-HOP

OTHER

Use the data you collect from each class to make a bar graph. Put both sets of data on one graph using different colors for each class.

## M is for Melody Answer Sheet

**Praise for your school** 1) “The Star Spangled Banner” 2) “O Canada”  
3) “Himno Nacional Mexican”

**Famous Composers** 1) Mozart 2) Beethoven 3) Clara Schumann 4) Fanny Mendelsohn 5) Paul Mc Cartney

**Band Mix-Up-** Brass—trumpet, trombone, French horn  
Woodwind—saxophone, clarinet, flute, oboe  
Percussion—drum, cymbals, xylophone  
Strings—violin, cello, bass

**Melody Math** 1) 9 2) 22 3) 33 4) 48

**Melody Hunt** 1) composer 2) conductor 3) forte 4) Bach, Vivaldi 5) 6 or 12  
6) New Orleans 7) keyboard 8) lullaby 9) 4 10) quintet

**Crossword Melody** 1) meter 2) tempo 3) clarinet 4) trio 5) yodel 6) rhythm

**Alphabetizing the Orchestra** bassoon, cello, cornet, cymbals, French horn,  
oboe, piccolo, saxophone, trumpet, tuba, violin, xylophone

**Which Does Not Belong** 1) saxophone 2) pair 3) spumoni 4) unison 5)  
cornet  
6) piano 7) dairy 8) note 9) Washington 10) musical

**Where Did It Come From** 1) Africa 2) Spain 3) Southeast Asia 4) Austrian  
Alps 5) USA 6) Europe 7) all over the world 8) USA

**Search High and Low** 1) conductor 2) drum major 3) harmony 4) lullaby  
5) percussion 6) Scott Joplin 7) virtuoso 8) yodeling 9) xylophone