Sight Singing Learning Sequence

Corbett Nelms
Ryan Piggott

Rhythm Sequence

Lesson 1: Steady Beat
Lessons 2 & 3: Quarter Notes and Eighth Notes
Lesson 4: Quarter Rests
Lesson 5: Half Notes
Lesson 6: Whole Notes
Lesson 7: Internalization of Pulse
Lessons 8 & 9: Half Note and Whole Note Rests
Lesson 10: Eighth Rests
Lesson 11: Syncopated Eighths
Lesson 12: Ties
Lessons 13, 14, & 15: Dotted Half Notes, 3/4 & 2/4
Lesson 16: Sixteenth Notes
Lesson 17: Simple Time Review

Lesson 18: Eighth Note Triplets
Lesson 19: Quarter Note Triplets
Lessons 20 & 21: Dotted Quarter and Half in 3/4 and 4/4
Lesson 22: Compound Time (6/8)
Lesson 23: Compound Time Rests
Lessons 24 & 25: 12/8 Time Signature and “Sailors Sailing on the Sea”
Lesson 26: 9/8 Time Signature
Lesson 27: Sixteenth Note Subdivision in Compound Time
Lessons 28 and 29: Asymmetrical Meter
Lesson 30: Full Sequence Review

Pitch Sequence

Lessons 1 & 2: Matching Pitch and High vs Low Pitch
Lesson 3: Do-Mi-Sol
Lesson 4: Do-Re-Mi
Lesson 5: Theory Lesson - Steps vs Skips
Lesson 6: Do-Re-Mi w/ Skips
Lesson 7: Do-Re-Mi-Fa-Sol
Lesson 8: Full Solfege Scale
Lesson 9: Do-Mi-Sol, Fa-La-Do, Sol-Ti-Re
Lesson 10: Theory Lesson - Leaps
Lessons 11 & 12 & 13: Theory Lesson - Clefs, Staff Lines and Spaces, Ledger
Lesson 14: C-D-E-F-G
Lesson 15: Full C Major Scale
Lesson 16: La-Do-Mi/A-C-E Beginning Natural Minor
Lesson 17: La-Ti-Do-Re-Mi/A-B-C-D-E
Lesson 18: Full A Natural Minor Scale
Lessons 19 & 20: Theory Lesson - Sharps and Sharp Keys
Lesson 21: G Major Scale
Lessons 22 & 23: Flats and Flat Keys
Lesson 24: F Major Scale
Lessons 25 & 26: E and D Natural Minor
Lesson 27: D Harmonic Minor
Lesson 28: Fi Solfege
Lesson 29: Theory Lesson - Key Change/Modulation
Lesson 30: Vocal Modulation from C to G Major

Rhythm Lesson 1

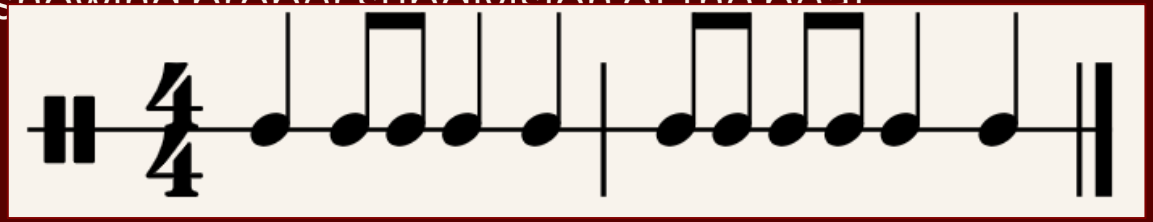
Steady Beat:

Students will be clap along with songs to demonstrate ability to maintain tempo. These could be popular songs on the radio or schoolyard songs such as “Mary Had a Little Lamb”

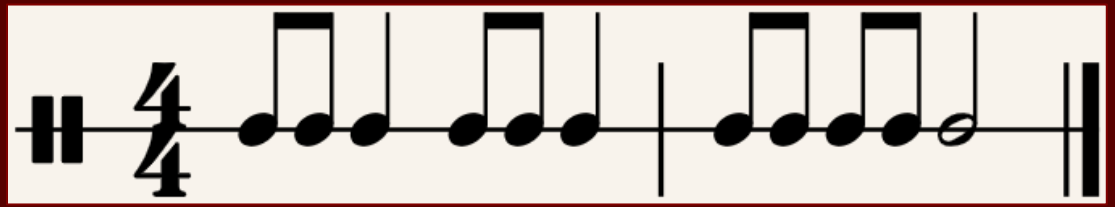
Rhythm Lessons 2 and 3

Introduction of eighth and quarter notes and musical example:

Students will be able to clap along to the musical exercise with a metronome and stay in time with each other showing proper subdivision of the beat



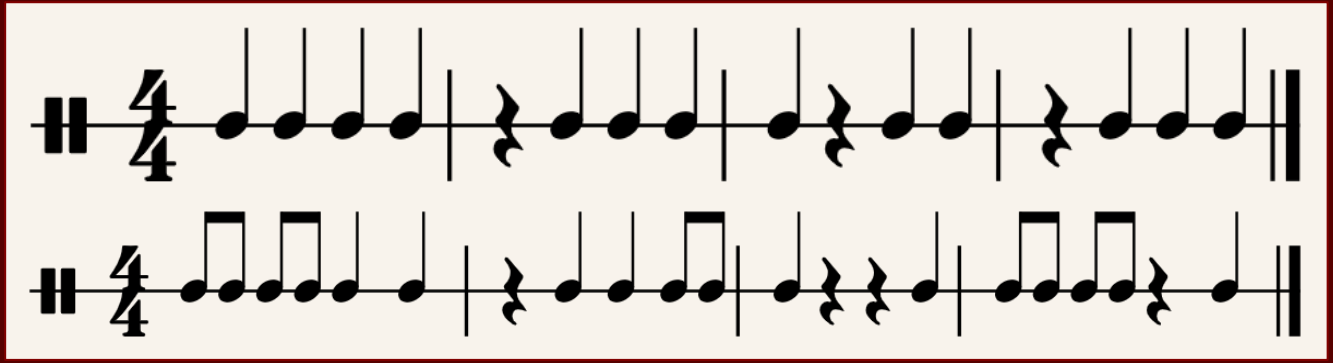
Clap along to jingle bells



Rhythm Lesson 4

Introduction of rests:

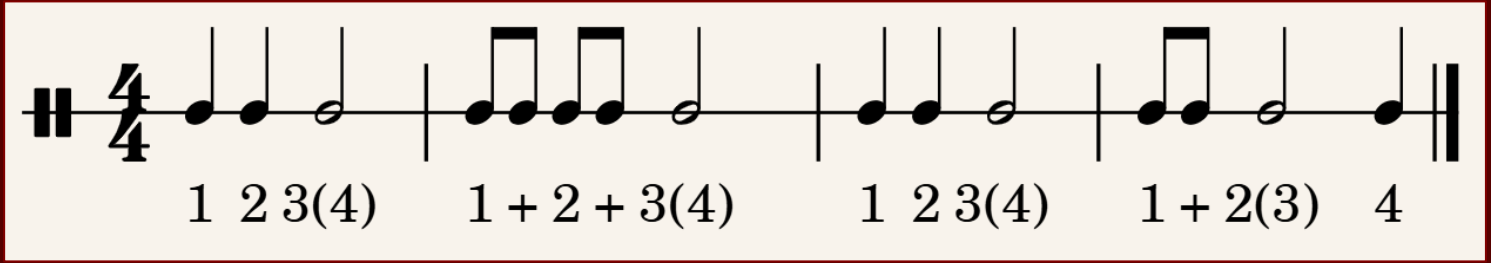
Students will be able to understand the notation for quarter rests and apply them to rhythmic exercises. Students should say “REST!” during the rests instead of clapping



Rhythm Lesson 5

Introduction to half notes

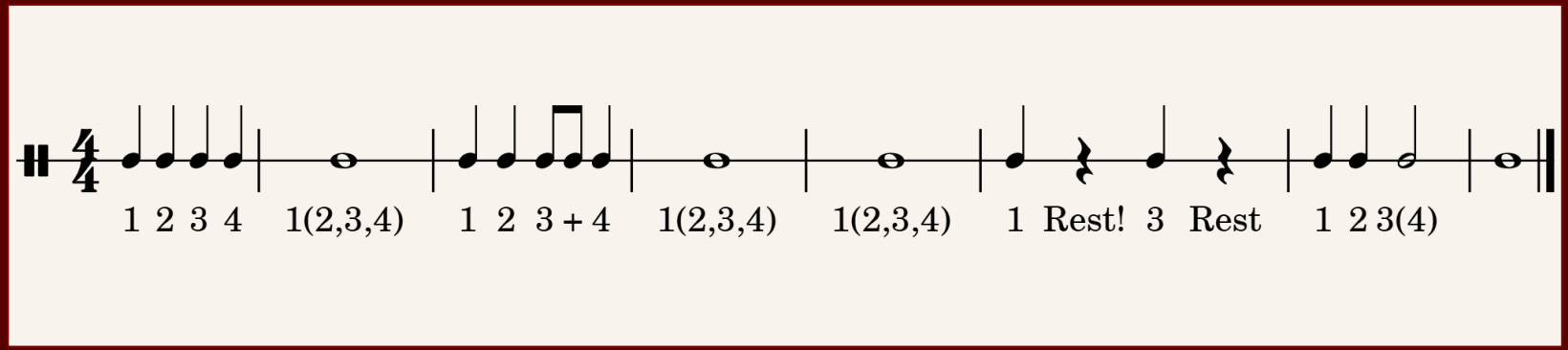
Students will be able to show internal subdivision with the rhythmic exercises below. Students will say the counting out loud with sustained numbers while clapping the steady beat.



Rhythm Lesson 6

Whole Notes:

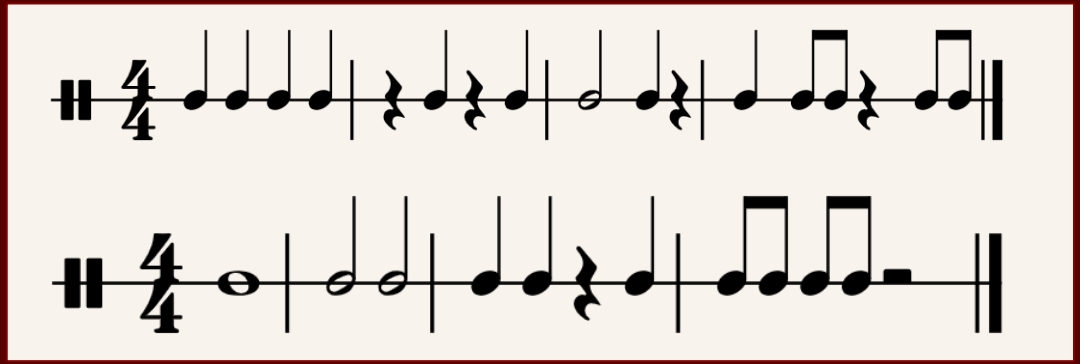
Students will continue clapping the steady beat and increasing the duration of notes to FOUR big beats.



Rhythm Lesson 7

Internalization of Pulse:

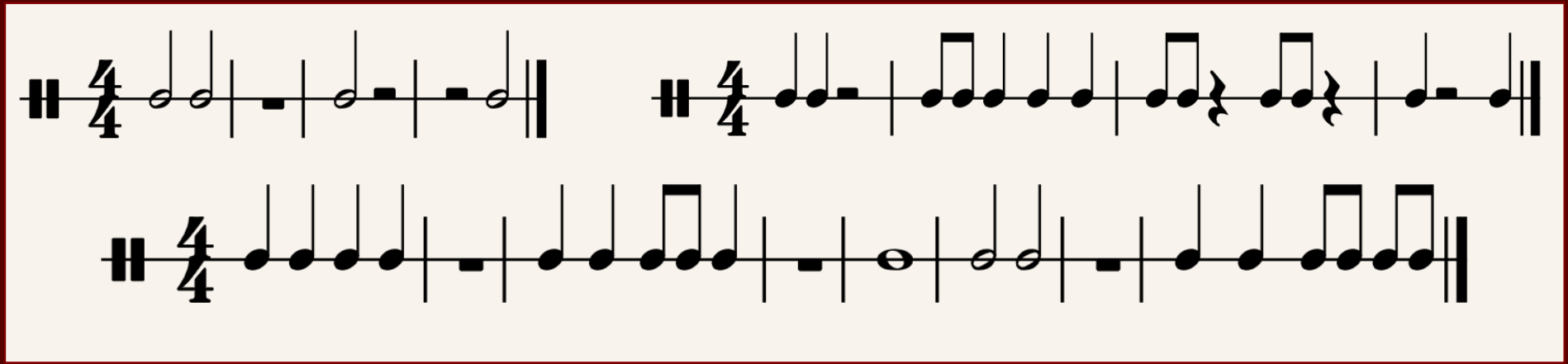
Students will begin to feel pulse internally while vocalizing instead of clapping. It is important at this stage to remove the word “REST” during rests and keep silence and make sure that students are holding out longer notes for their full value.



Rhythm Lessons 8 & 9

Half note and whole note rests:

Students will be able to subdivide in their head during half and whole note rests. They will be able to enter on time together with and without a metronome.



Rhythm Lesson 10

Eighth Rests:

Students will recognize standard notation of 8th rests and count them.

Rhythm Lesson 11

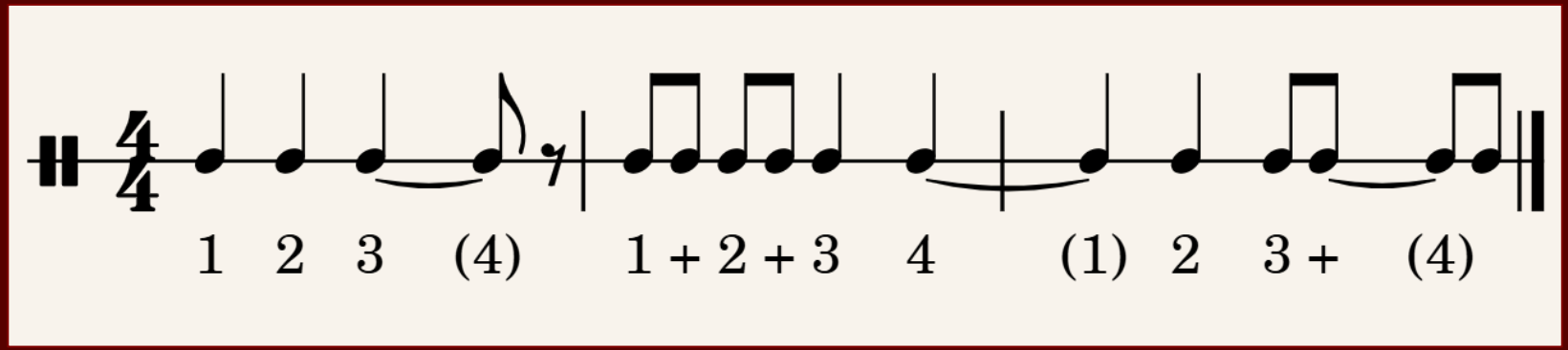
Syncopated Eighths:

Students will begin to understand the vocabulary term “syncopation” and perform exercises in off-beat entrances.

Rhythm Lesson 12

Ties:

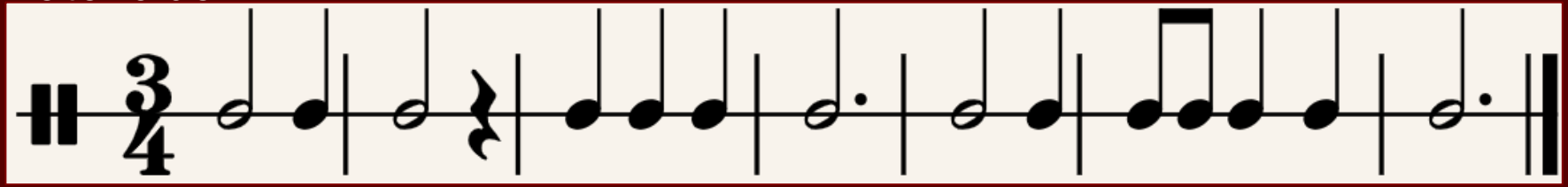
Students will learn the meaning of the tie in music which connects notes without rearticulation.

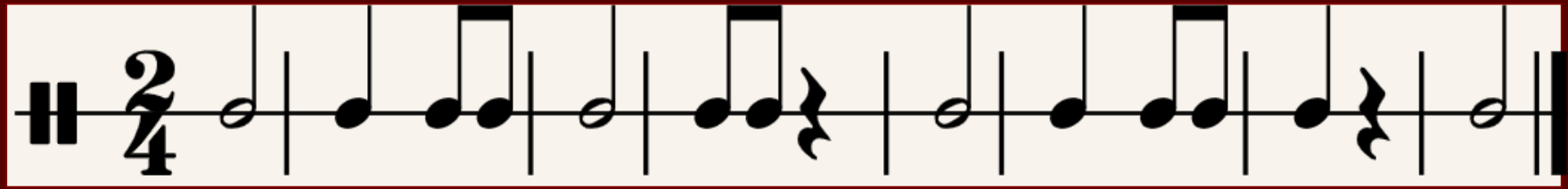


Rhythm Lessons 13, 14, and 15

Introducing 3/4, 2/4 Time, and dotted half notes:

Students will understand the anatomy of the time signature and will be able to count examples in both 3/4 and 2/4 time. Also introducing the dot as half of the primary note value

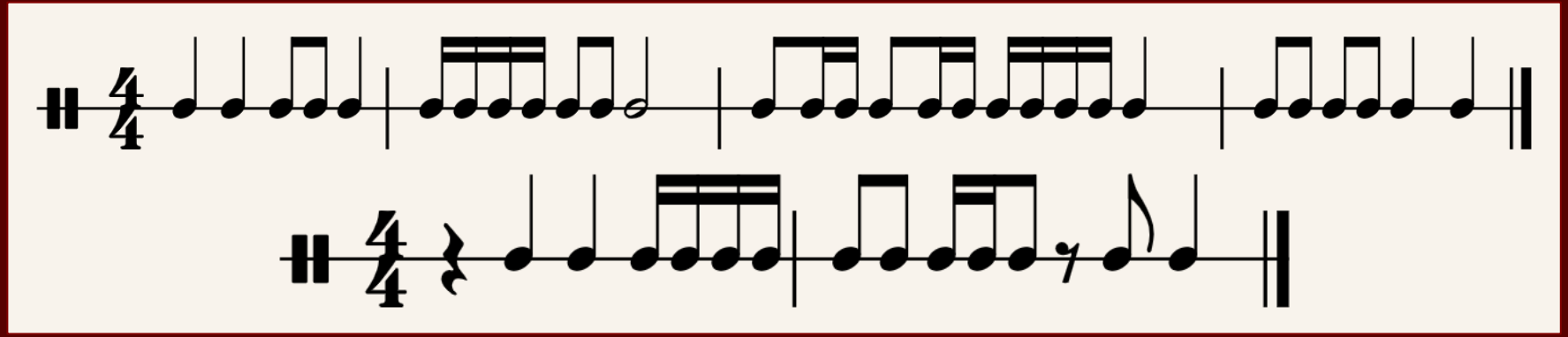




Rhythm Lesson 16

Sixteenth Notes:

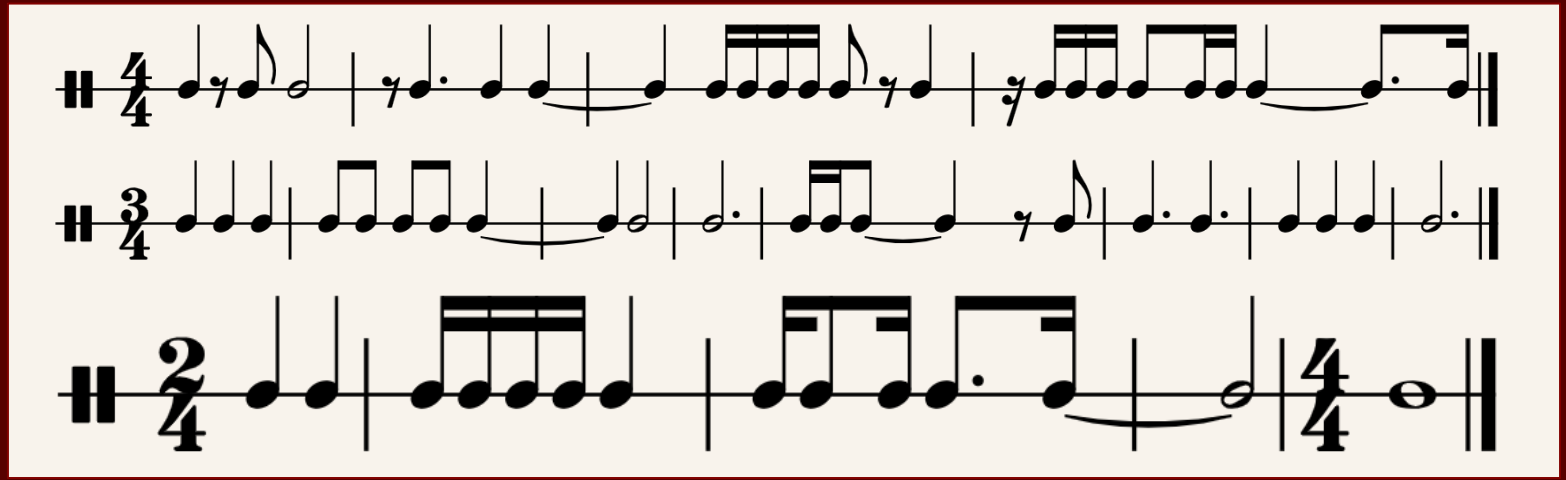
Students will understand the subdivision of 16th notes in simple time.



Rhythm Lesson 17

Simple Time Review:

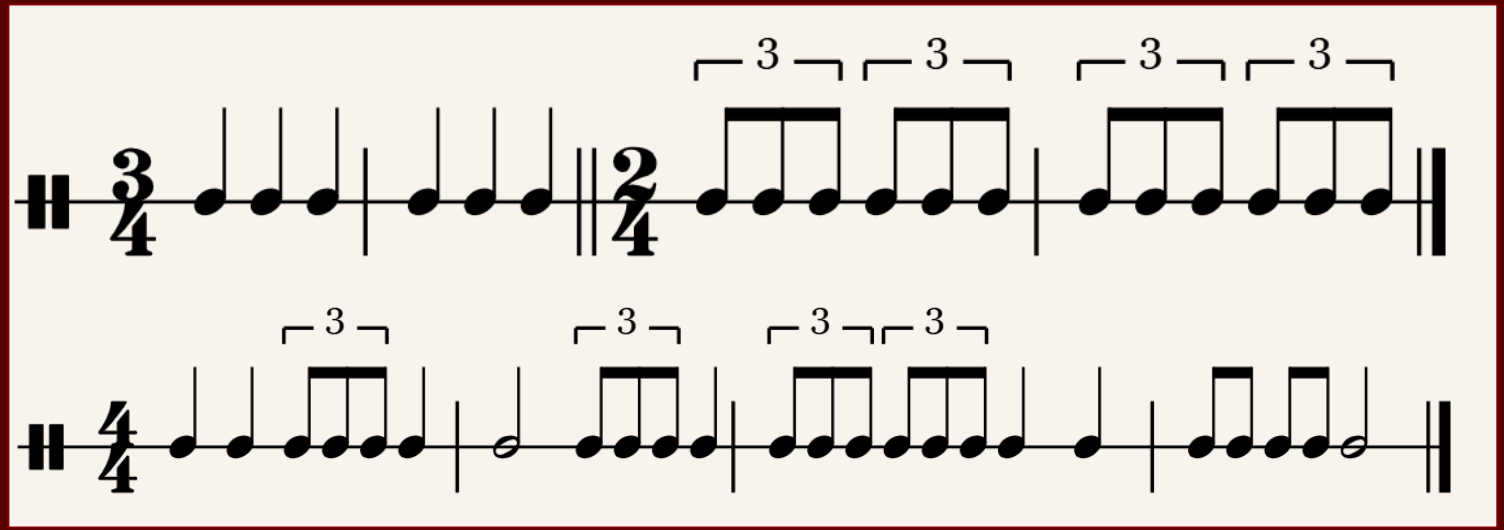
Students will perform musical excerpts that combine all previously learned lessons including note values whole through sixteenth, dots and ties, syncopation, and 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4 time signatures.



Rhythm Lesson 18

Eighth Note Triplets:

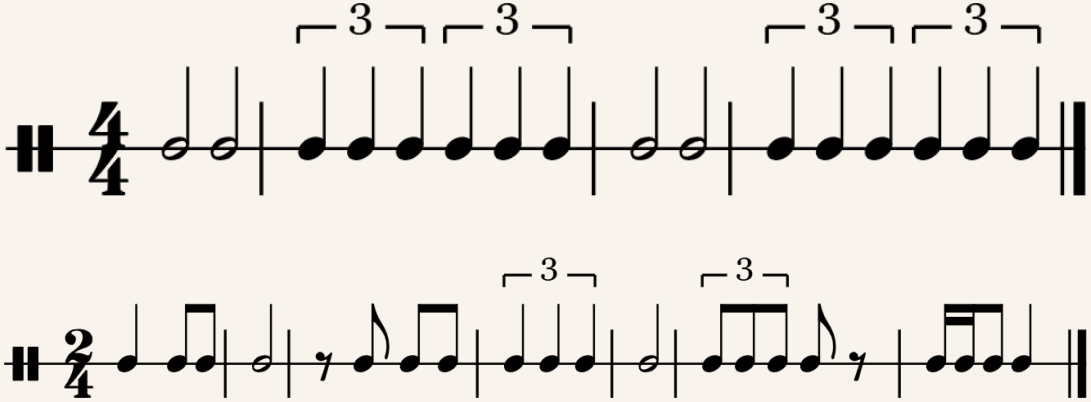
Students will be able to count triplets using the “tri-pu-let” system. Triplets will be explained using a quick 3/4 measure being shrunk to fit in to one beat.



Rhythm Lesson 19

Quarter Note Triplets:

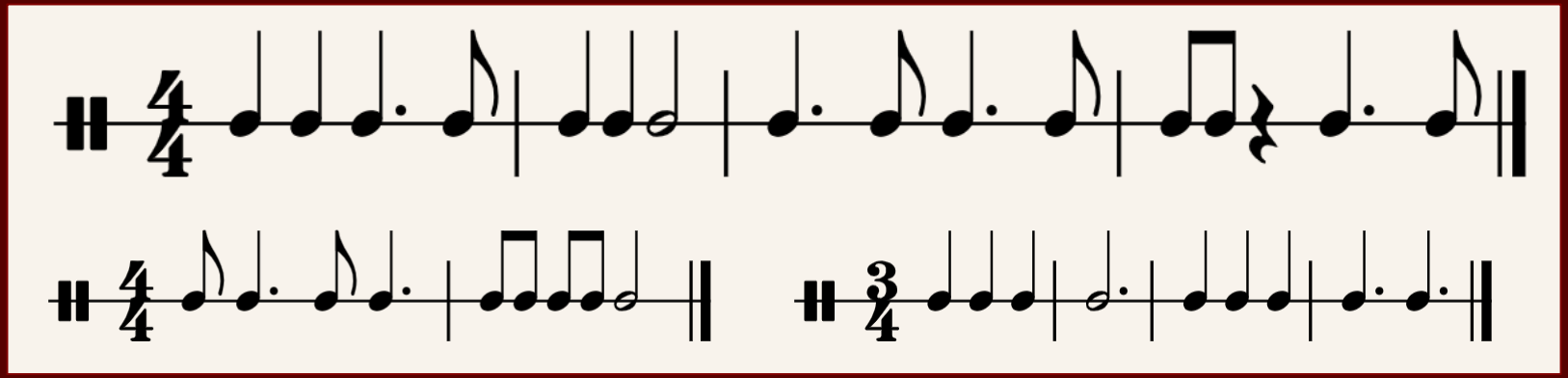
Students will apply previously learned knowledge of triplets to understand that a quarter note triplet it three notes in the duration of a half note.



Rhythm Lessons 20 and 21

Dotted Quarter and dotted half in 3/4 and 4/4:

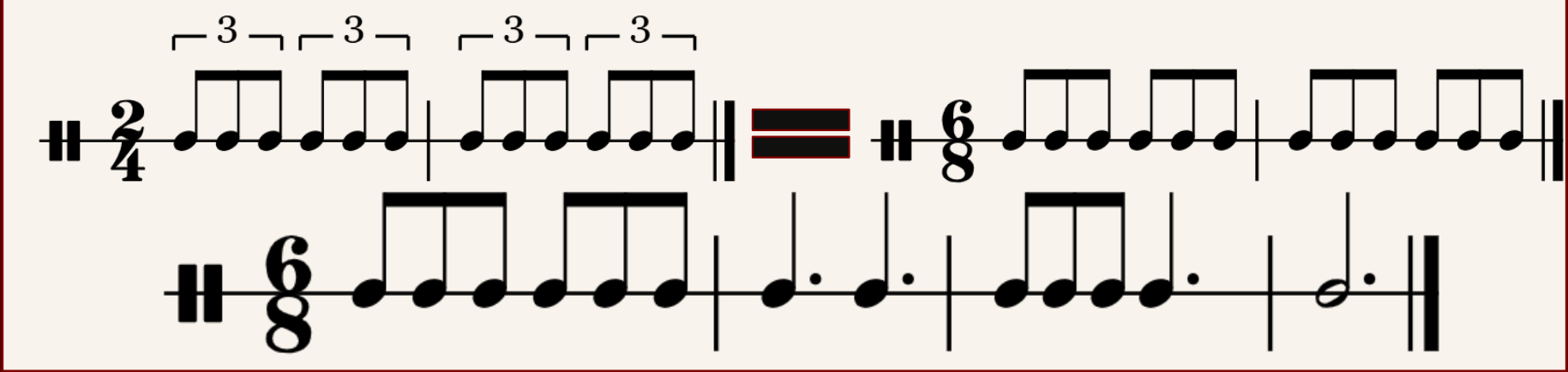
Students will use prior knowledge of the dot to conclude that the length of a dotted quarter note equals quarter+eighth rhythm.



Rhythm Lesson 22

Compound Time:

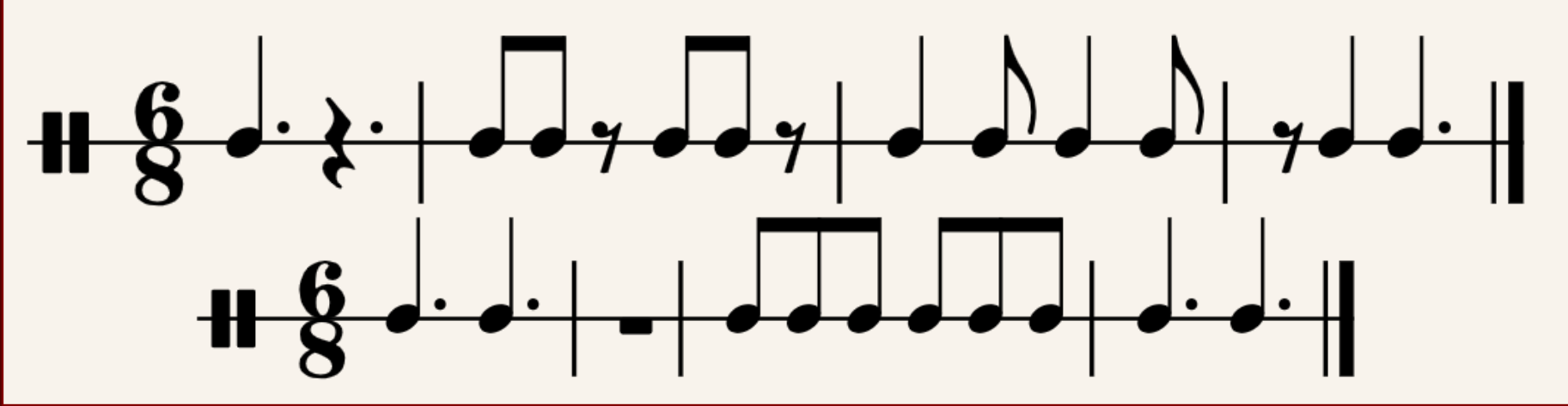
Students will be introduced to 6/8 time signature where the eighth note gets the subdivision and is felt in 2/4 with triplets.



Rhythm Lesson 23

Compound Time Rests:

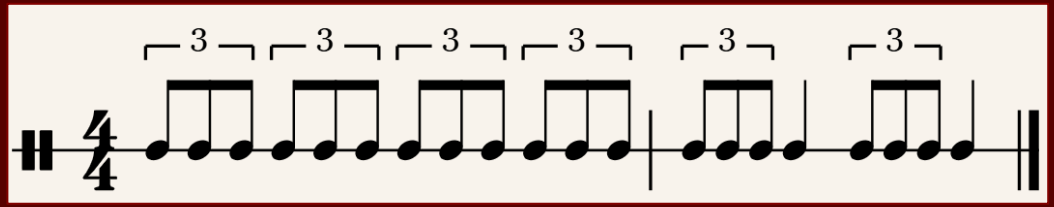
Continuing with 6/8 time, we would now introduce rests

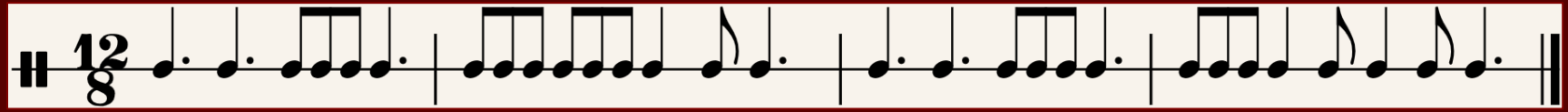


Rhythm Lessons 24 and 25

12/8 explanation and Game:

Students will be able to count in 12/8. Students will count this time signature feeling the downbeat as if it were 4/4 with triplet subdivision. Once students have grasped the concept, introduce the song "Sailors Sailing on the Sea" and have them read and count before playing the game described on the page.

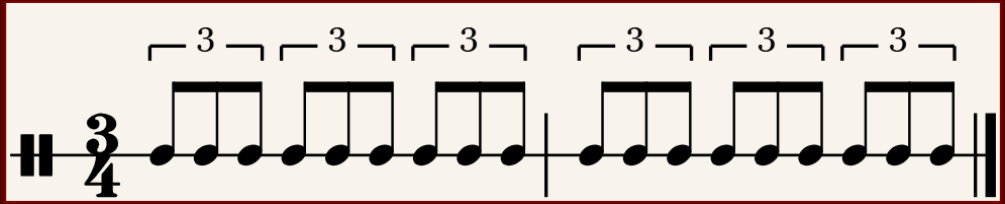


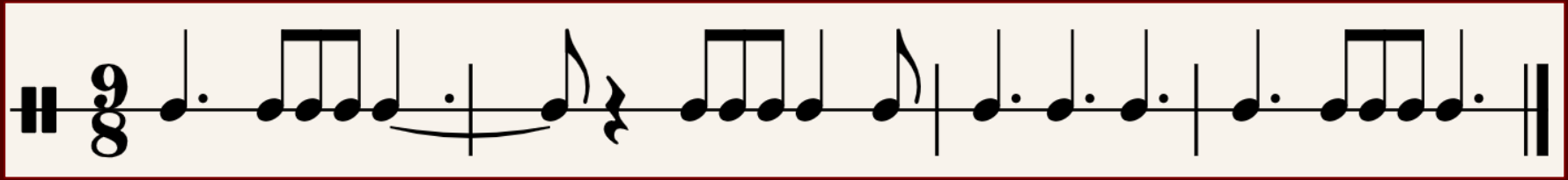


Rhythm Lesson 26

9/8

Students will be able to count in 9/8. Students will count this time signature feeling the downbeat as if it were 3/4 with triplet subdivision .

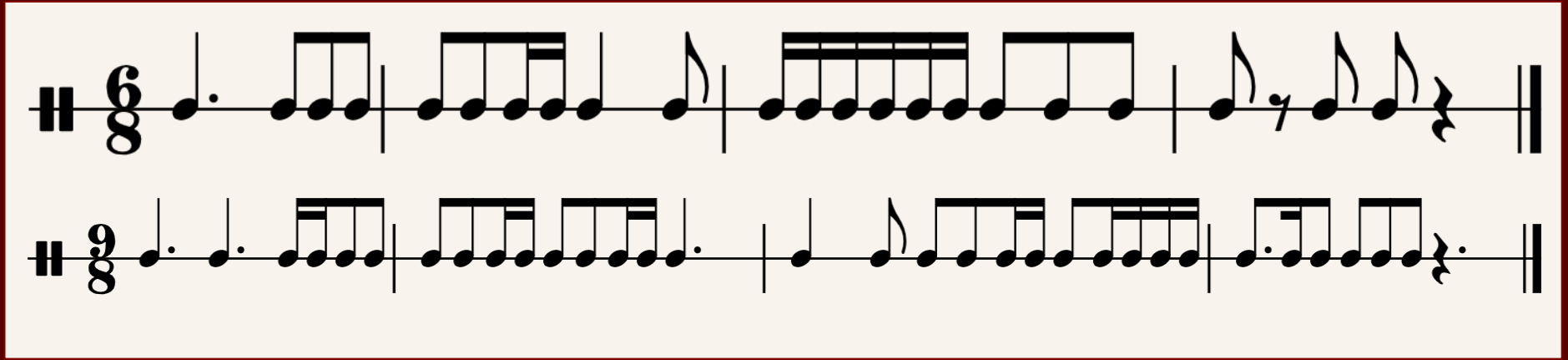




Rhythm Lesson 27

Sixteenth Notes in Compound Time:

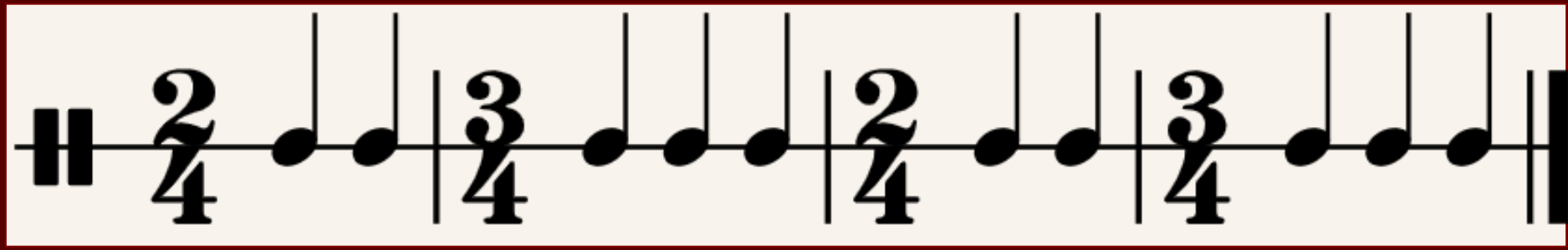
Students will understand the subdivision of 16th notes in compound time signatures



Rhythm Lessons 28 and 29

Asymmetrical time signature explanation and in context:

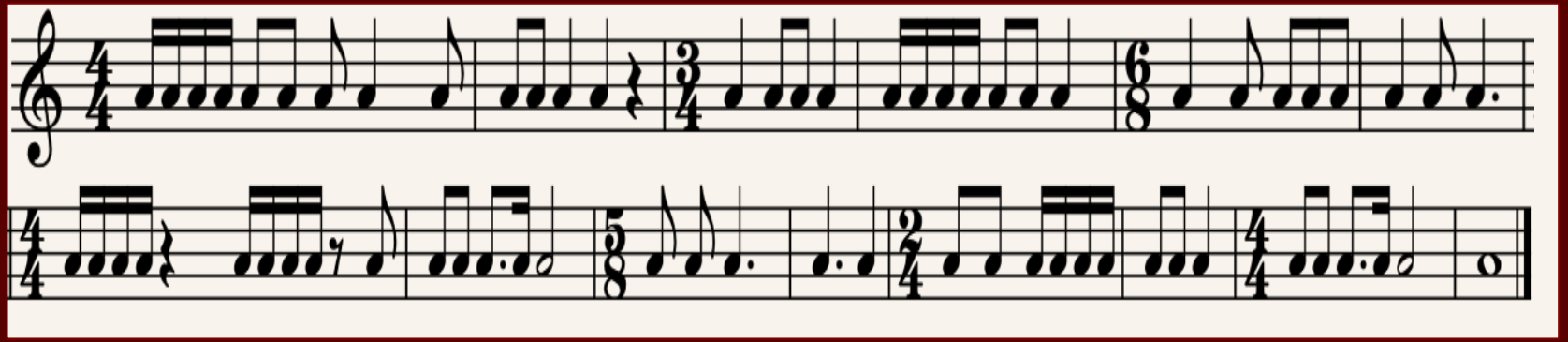
Students will be able to count 5/8 using a 2+3 subdivision.



Rhythm Lesson 30

Review of all major Rhythm Lessons and counting exercises:

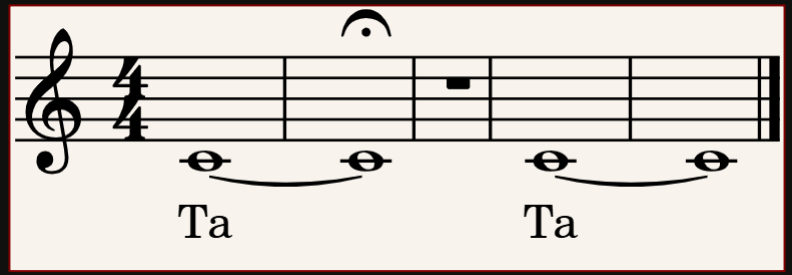
Students will be able to count through all the lines using the techniques and exercises taught throughout the semester.

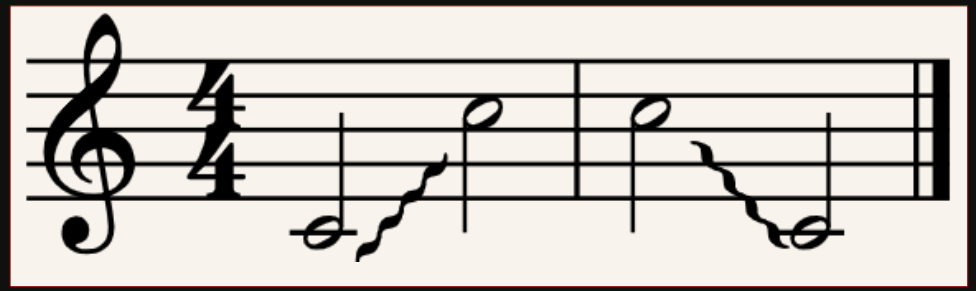


Pitch Lessons 1 & 2

Matching Pitch and High vs. Low:

Students will be able to match the teachers pitch and will be urged to try and retain pitch after a reference is given. Students will understand the relation of pitches as higher or lower than preceding pitches. This will also include low-high and high-low sirens.

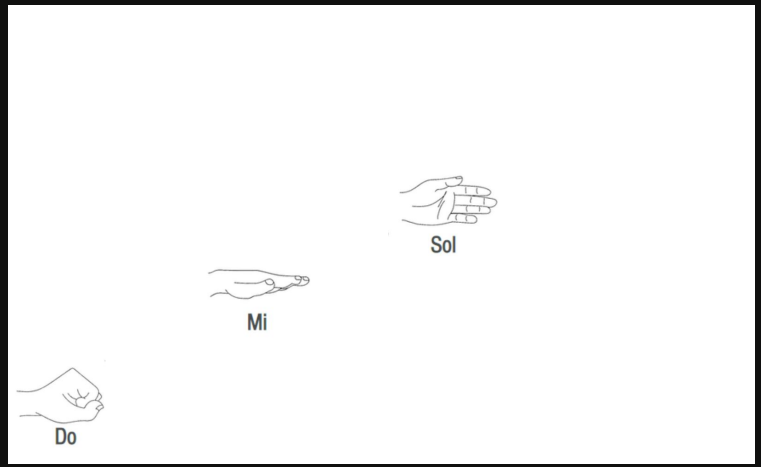


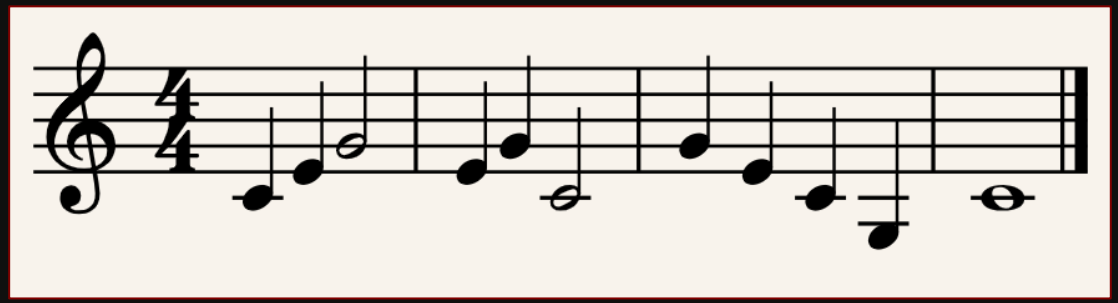


Pitch Lesson 3

Do-Mi-Sol:

Students will be able to follow the rote instruction and imitate the vocalises sung by the teacher using the solfege syllables Do, Mi, and high/low Sol. Students will also begin using Curwen Hand Signs with these pitches.

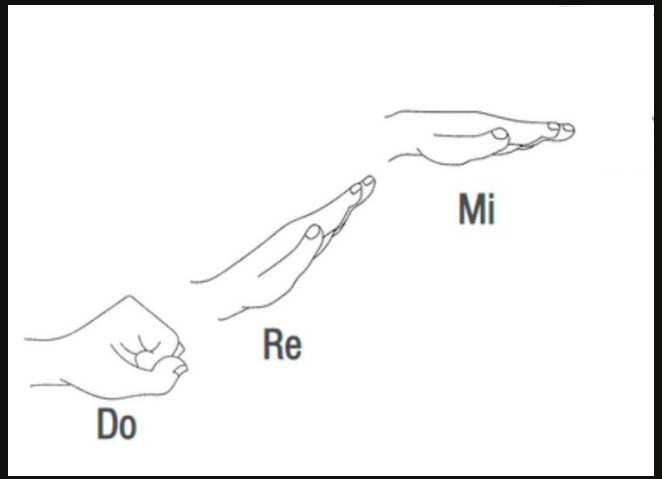


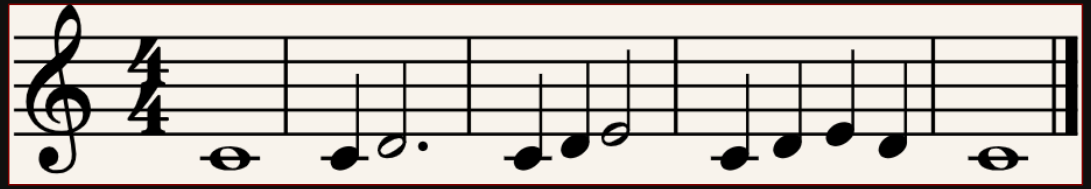


Pitch Lesson 4

Do-Re-Mi:

Students will be able to follow the rote instructions imitate the vocalises sung by the teacher using the solfege syllables Do-Re-Mi with step-wise motion.

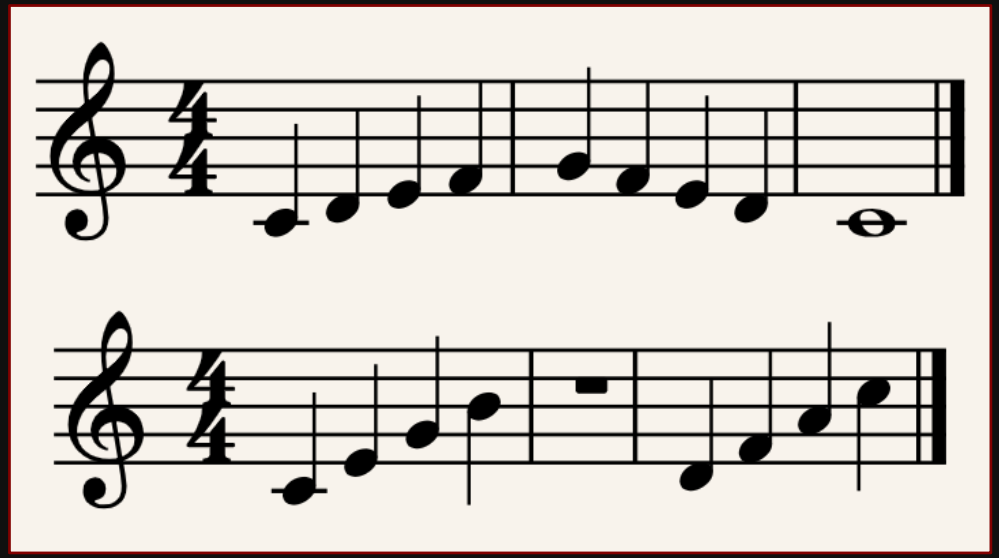




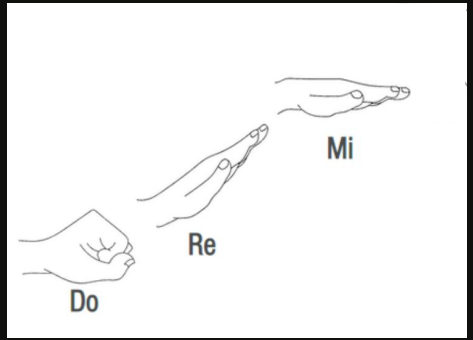
Pitch Lesson 5

Theory Lesson - Step vs. Skip

Students will understand the sound difference between steps up the scale and skips over notes in solfege.

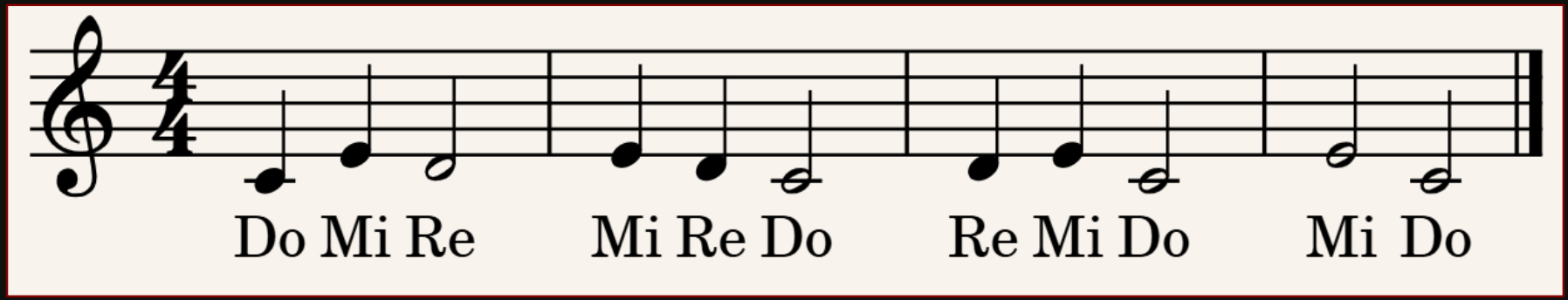


Pitch Lesson 6



Do-Re-Mi With Skips:

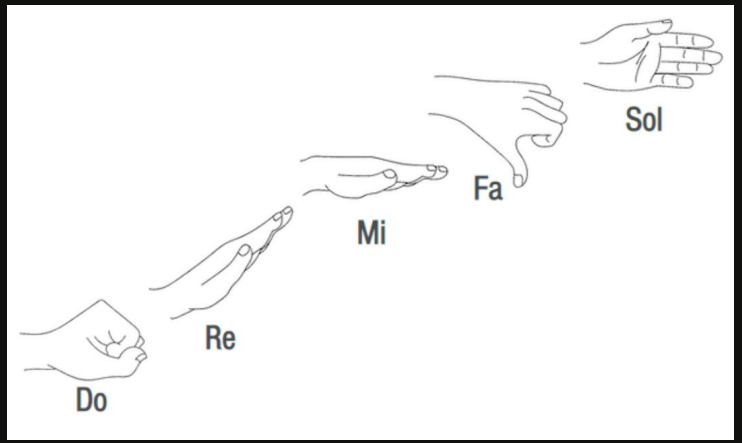
Students will be able to follow the rote instructions imitate the vocalises sung by the teacher using the solfege syllables Do-Re-Mi with step and skip motion.

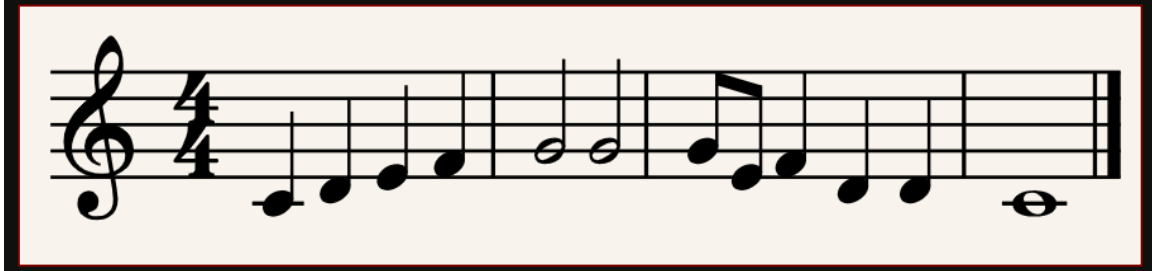


Pitch Lesson 7

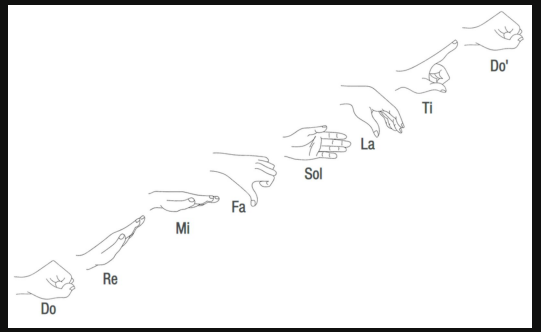
Do-Re-Mi-Fa-Sol:

Students will be able to follow the rote instructions imitate the vocalises sung by the teacher using the solfege syllables Do-Sol in steps and skips.



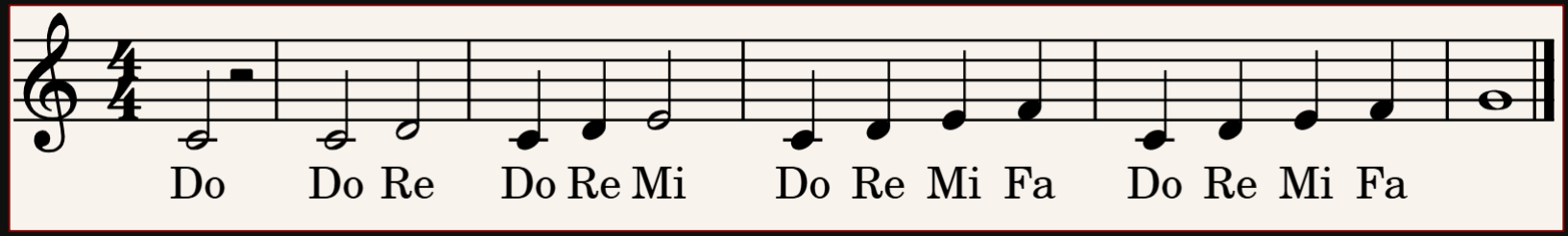


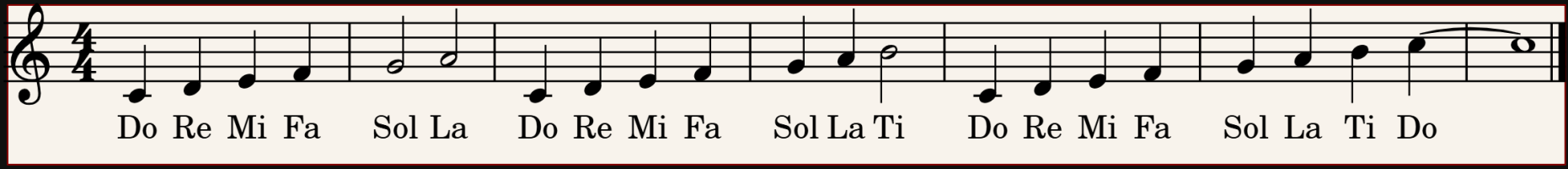
Pitch Lesson 8



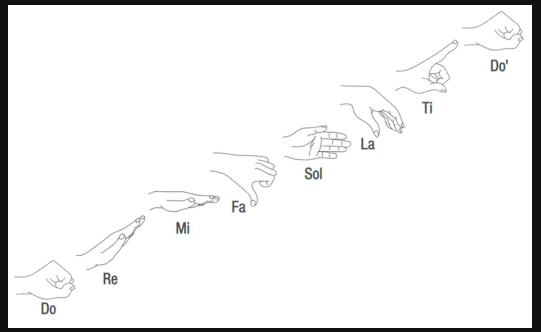
Do-Re-Mi-Fa-Sol-La-Ti-Do:

Students will be able to follow the rote instruction and imitate the vocalises sung by the teacher using the solfege syllables Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Ti, and High Do. Students will also begin using Curwen Hand Signs with these pitches.



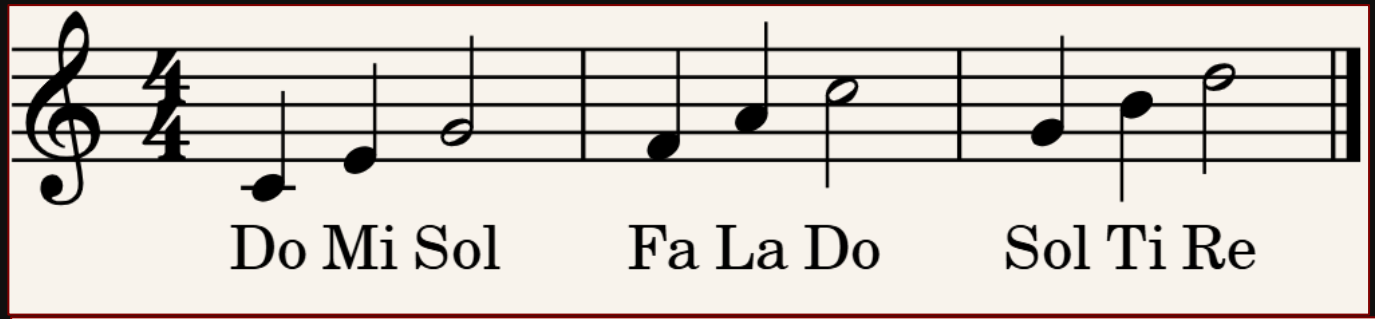


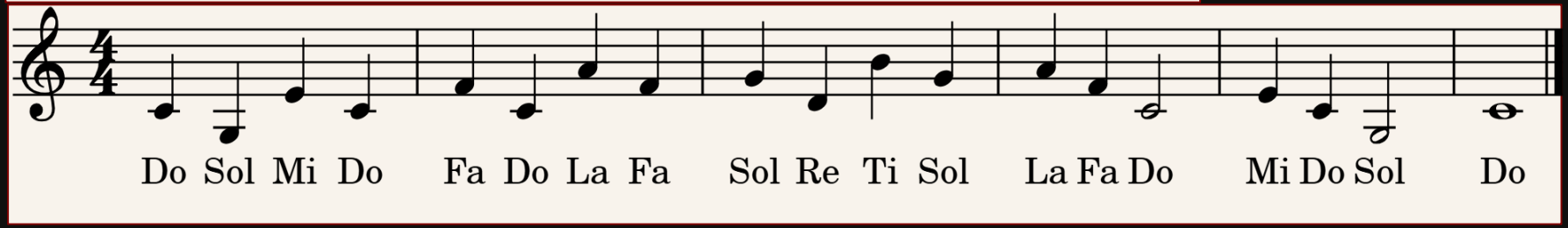
Pitch Lesson 9



Do-Mi-Sol, Fa-La-Do, Sol-Ti-Re:

Student will be able to sing the I, IV, and V chords in the key using correct solfege syllables and Curwen hand signs.

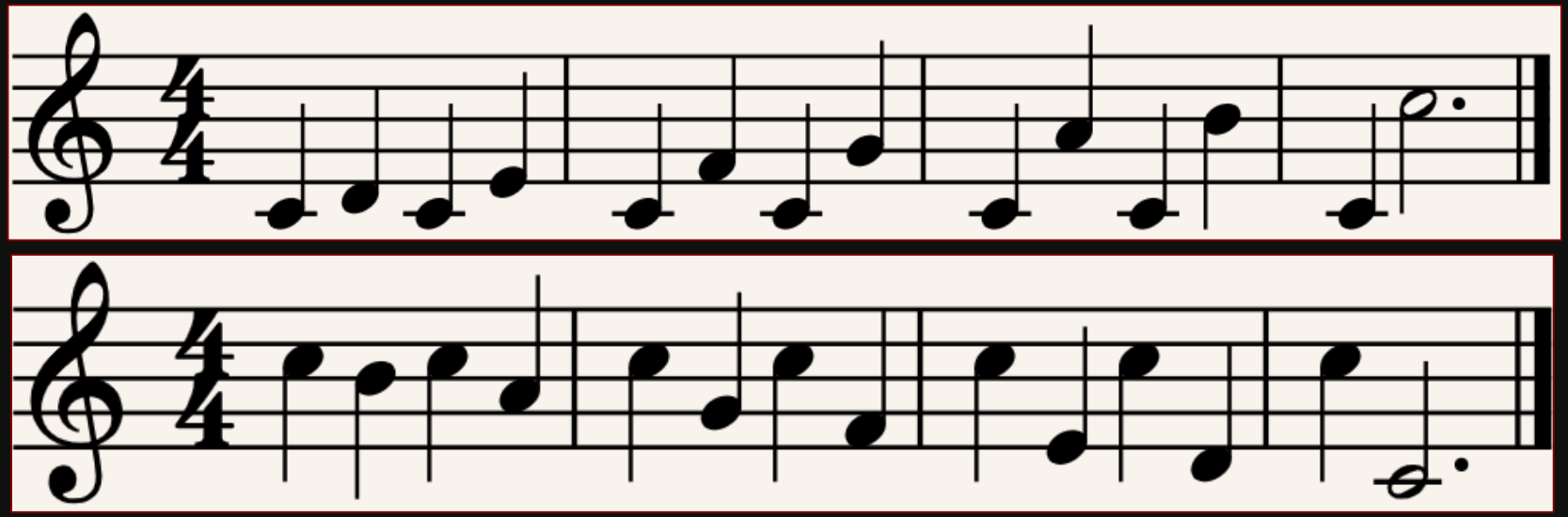




Pitch Lesson 10

Theory Lesson - Leaps:

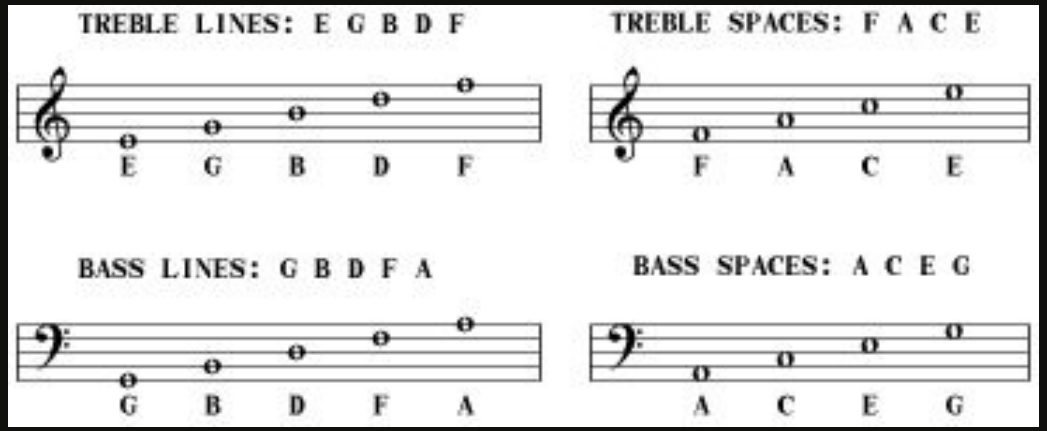
Students will learn the final type of motion which is a leap over two or more notes.

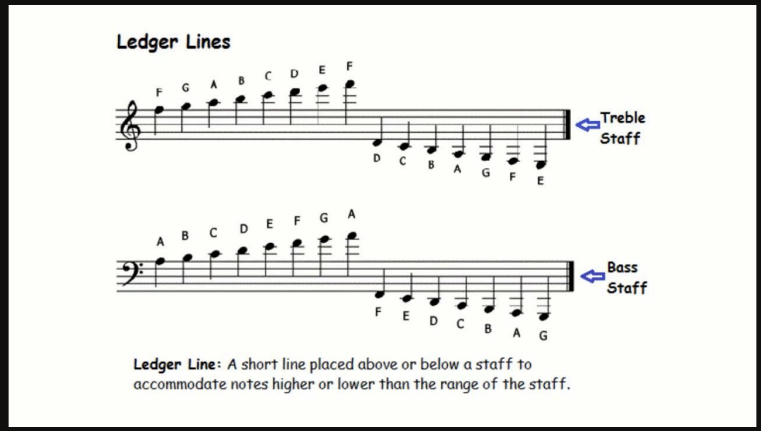


Pitch Lessons 11, 12 & 13

Theory Lesson - Clefs, Staff Lines and Spaces

Students will understand the note names of the lines and spaces on a single staff in treble clef and bass clef. They will also be taught the function of ledger lines as an extension of the staff.

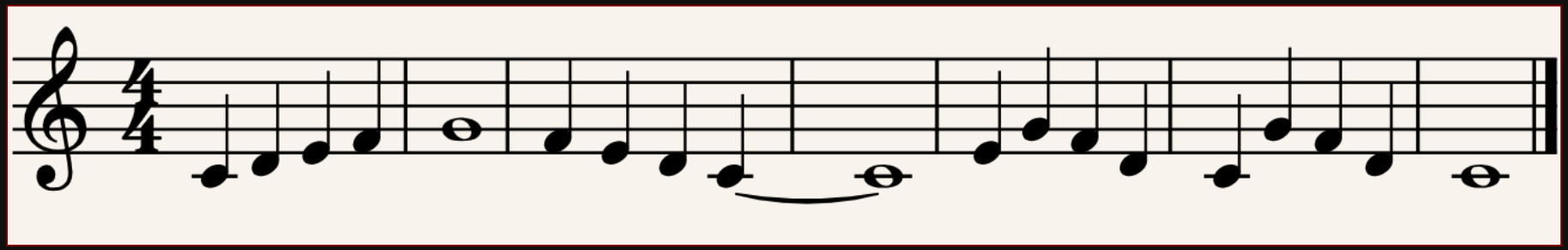




Pitch Lesson 14

C-D-E-F-G:

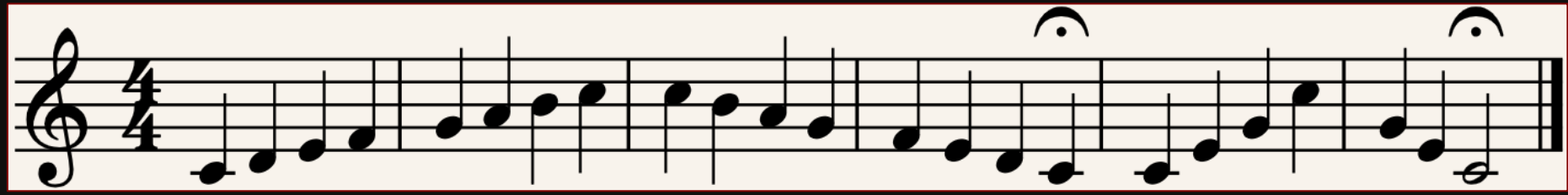
Students will be able to identify notes C-D-E-F-G on the staff and sing using their corresponding solfege (in the unspoken key of C Major).



Pitch Lesson 15

Full C Major Scale:

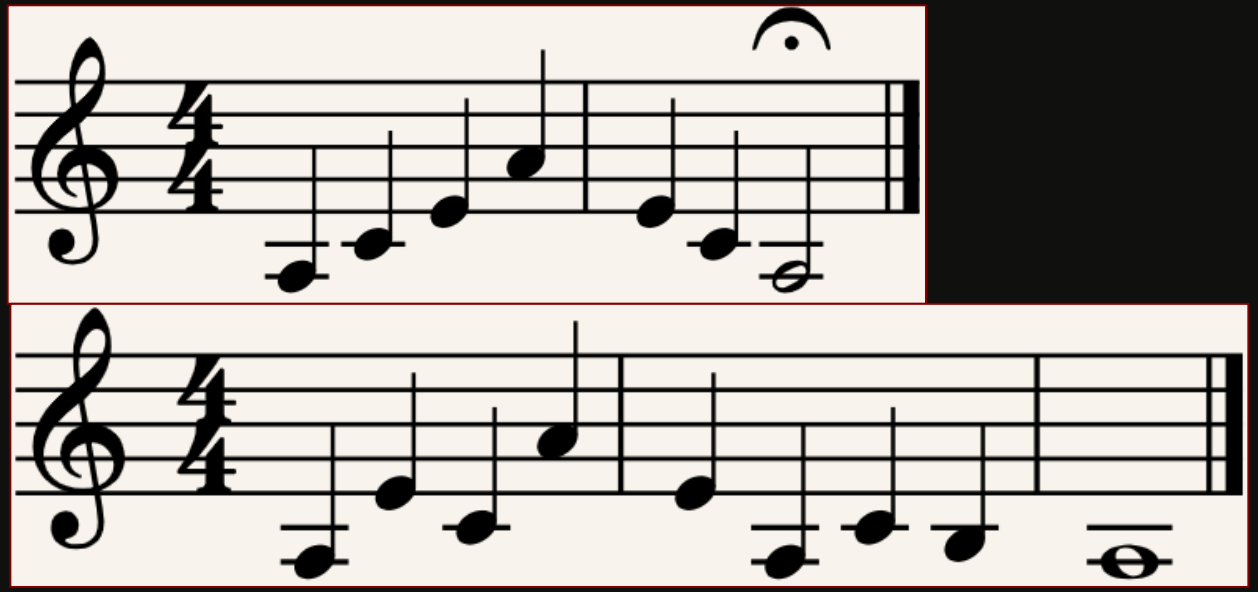
Students will learn the notes A and B and be able to identify all notes on the staff in the key of C major and sing using their corresponding solfege.



Pitch Lesson 16

Low La-Do-Mi/Low A-C-E:

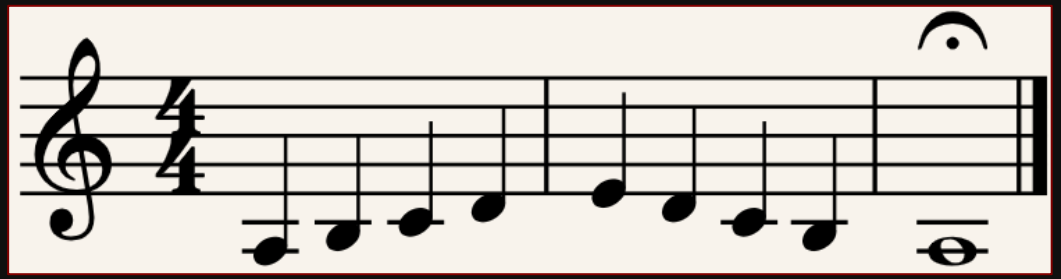
Students will begin understanding of La-based minor by singing the minor tonic triad

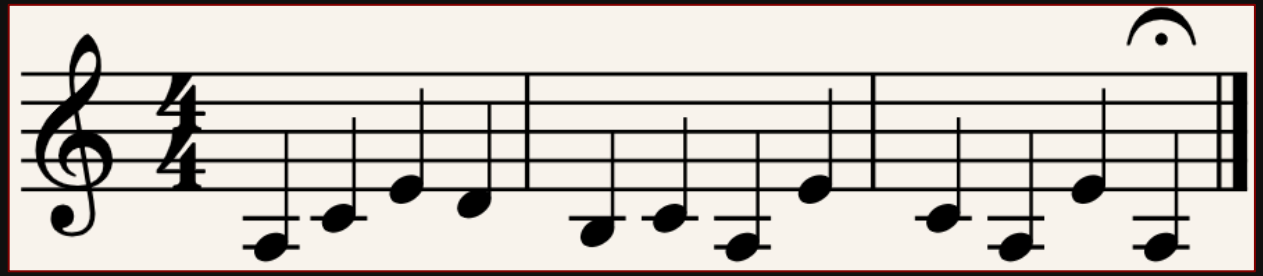


Pitch Lesson 17

La-Ti-Do-Re-Mi/A-B-C-D-E:

Students will begin to identify and sing with correct hand signs the first five pitches of the natural minor scale.

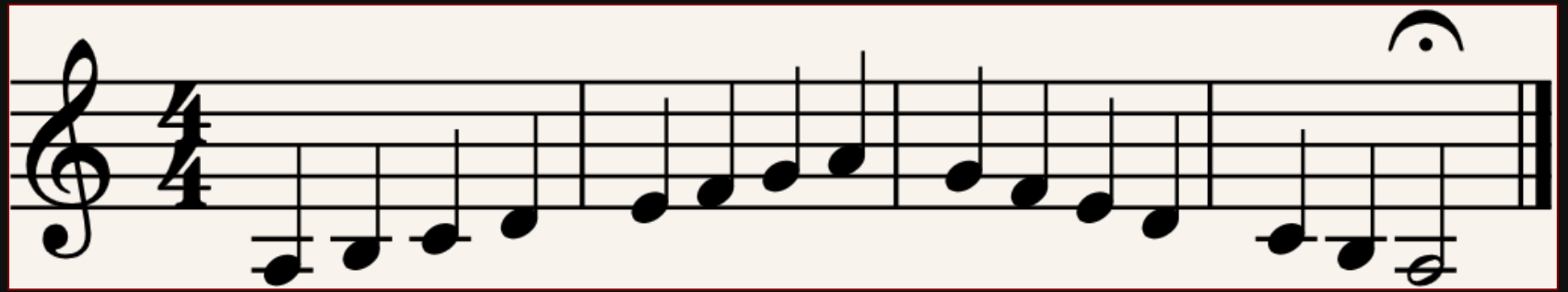




Pitch Lesson 18

La-Ti-Do-Re-Mi-Fa-Sol-La/A Natural Minor Scale:

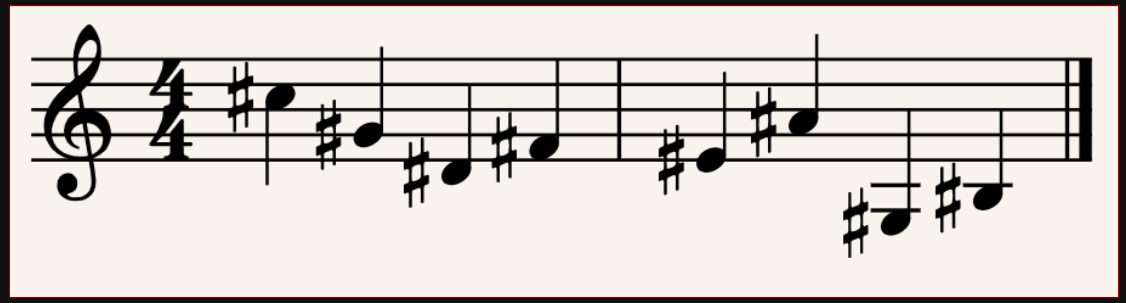
Students will be able to identify and sing with correct hand signs the pitches of the natural minor scale. Application to the song "A Squirrel is a Pretty Thing" will bolster understanding.

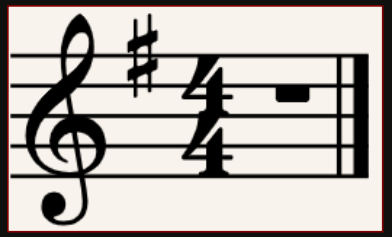


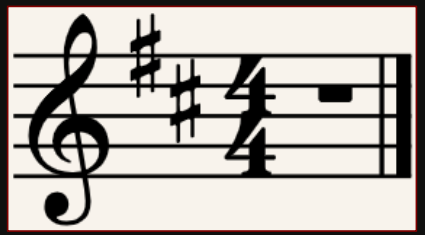
Pitch Lessons 19 & 20

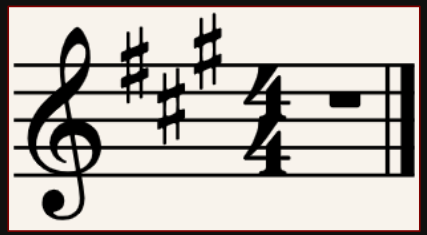
Theory Lesson - Sharps and Sharp Keys:

Students will learn the function of sharps in sheet music as chromatic tones. Students will also understand the function of a key signature and identify keys of up to three sharps.





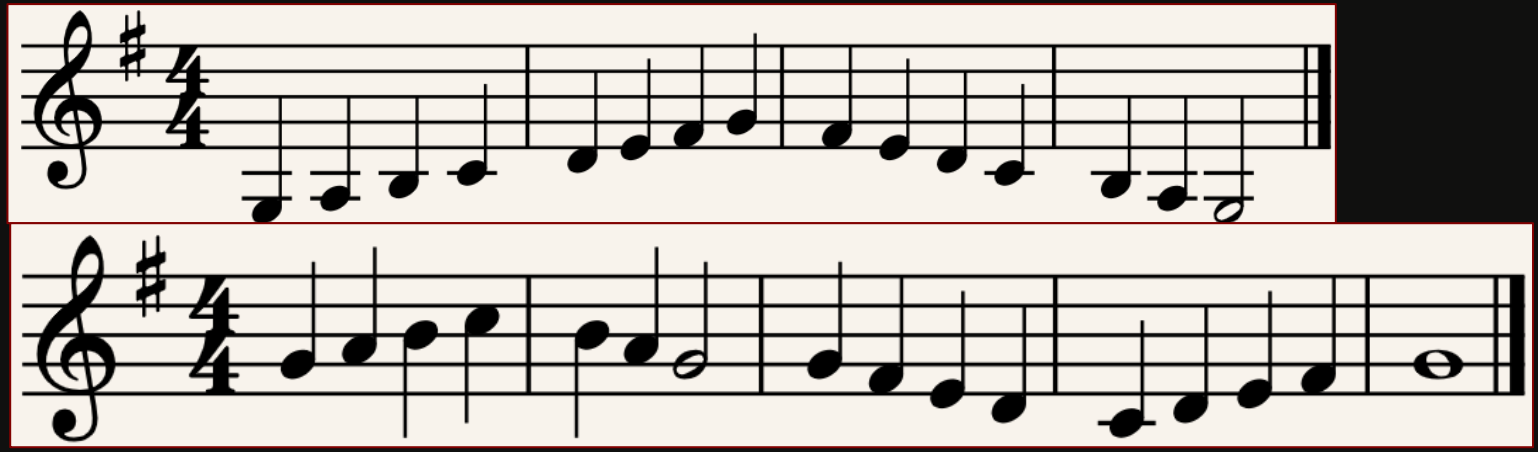




Pitch Lesson 21

G Major Scale:

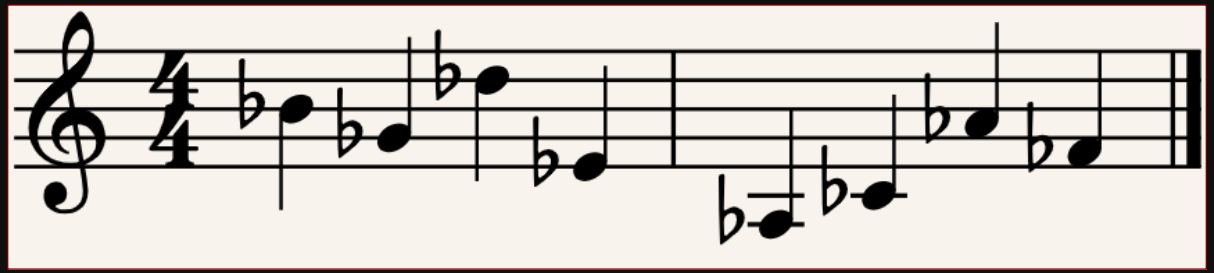
Students will be taught how the key signature determines which note on the staff become Do. Exercises should still stay between C4–C5.

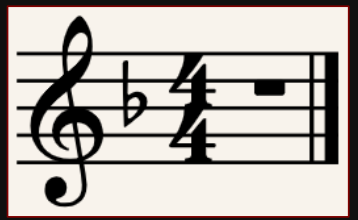


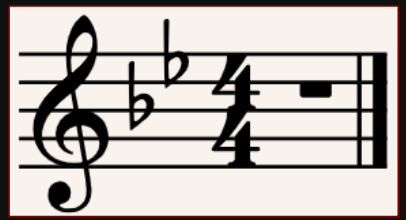
Pitch Lessons 22 & 23

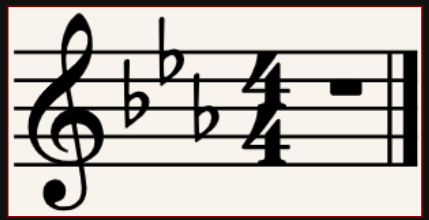
Theory Lesson - Flats and Flat Key Signatures:

Students will learn the function of flats in sheet music as chromatic tones. Students will also understand the function of a key signature and identify keys of up to three flats.





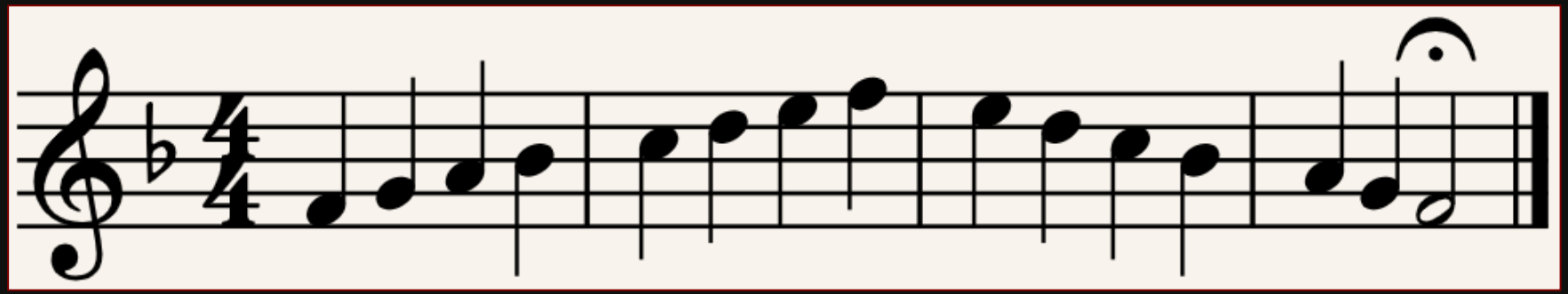




Pitch Lesson 24

F Major Scale:

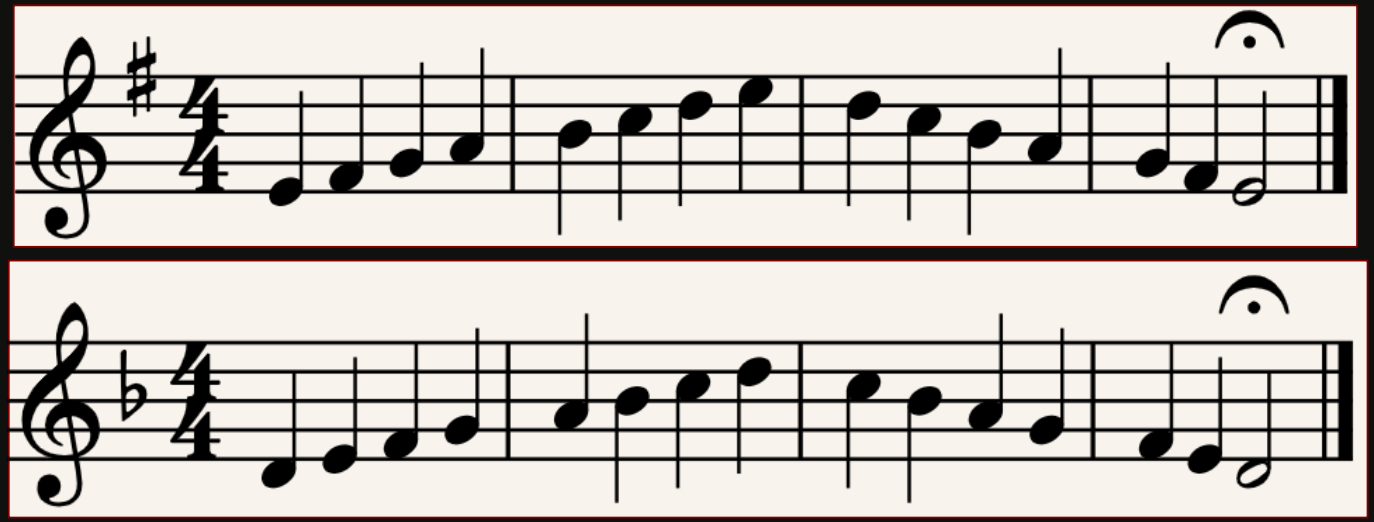
Students will use prior knowledge of key signatures to determine the solfege syllables in the key of F major



Pitch Lessons 25 & 26

E Natural Minor:

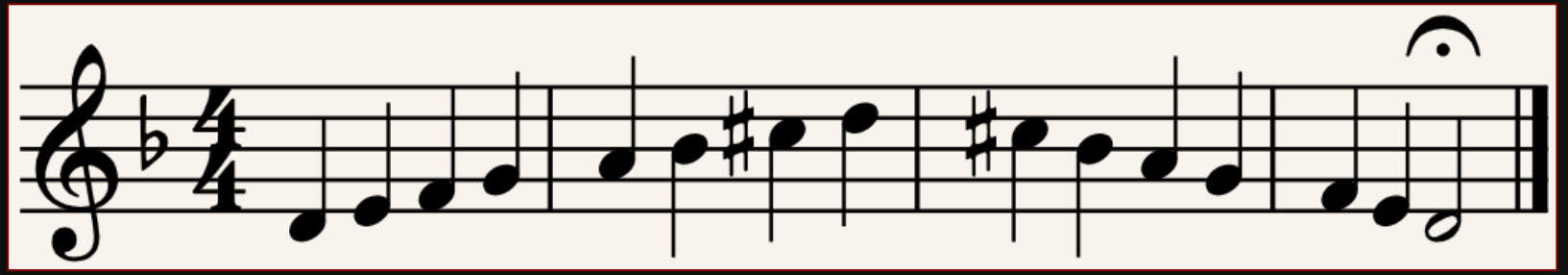
Students will activate prior knowledge to equate E Natural Minor and D Natural Minor to the A Minor sound that they learned earlier.



Pitch Lesson 27

D Harmonic Minor:

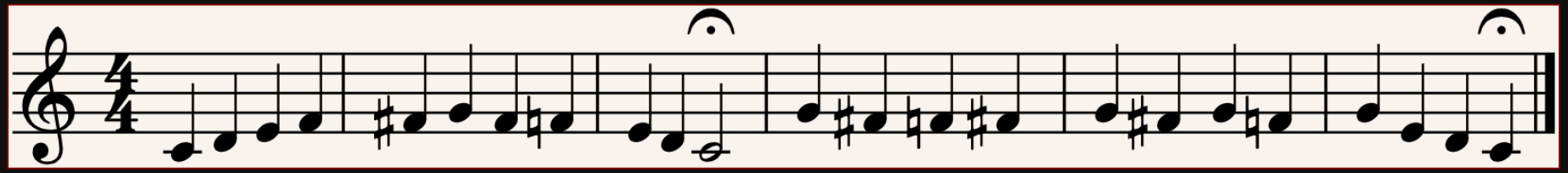
Students will use knowledge of sharps and flats to identify the change from C to C# in harmonic minor.



Pitch Lesson 28

Chromatic Solfege - Fi:

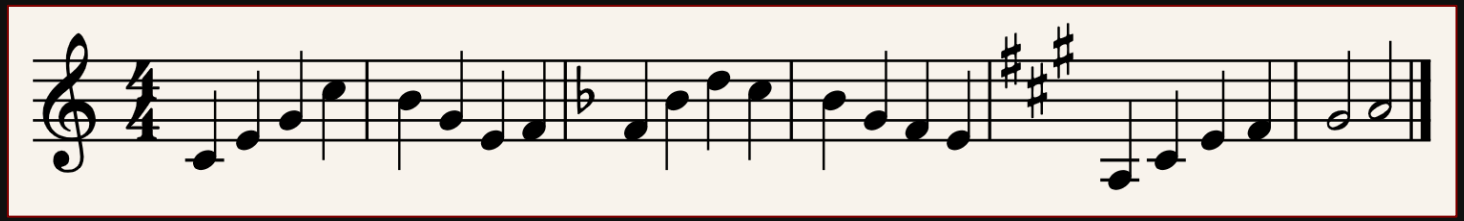
Students will learn Fi in the key of C Major (F#).



Pitch Lesson 29

Theory Lesson - Modulation:

Students will understand examples of modulations (key changes) in popular songs and how to recognize them in sheet music.



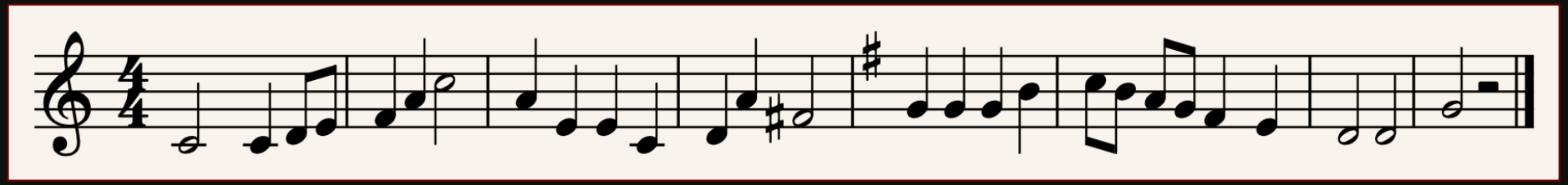
Examples of Modulations:

Man in the Mirror - Michael Jackson

Livin on a Prayer - Bon Jovi

Close to You - The Carpenters

Pitch Lesson 30

Modulation from C Major to G Major:

Using knowledge of key signatures, chromatic tones (Fi/F#), and key change notation, students will sing through a modulation from the key of C Major to G Major.