

CONCEPTS COVERED: Tones, semitones and enharmonics

STUDENT LEVEL: Late beginner/grade 1



SLIPPERY STEPS

HOW TO PLAY

- Place a counter for each player at the bottom of the stairs.
- Players take turns to turn over a card and move forward.
 - If they get a semitone card they must move counting each step (dark or light).
 - If they get a tone card they must move counting two steps at a time (still including dark and light steps).
 - If they get an enharmonic card they do not move.
- If a student moves to the wrong stair, that step is "slippery" and they fall back down 1 tone.
- The winner is the first to reach the top of the stairs.

Note: Play this game the first time allowing students to tap out the steps as they go. When they play again, introduce the slippery step rule and require them to count in their head and jump to the correct step.

ASSEMBLY

To assemble this game:

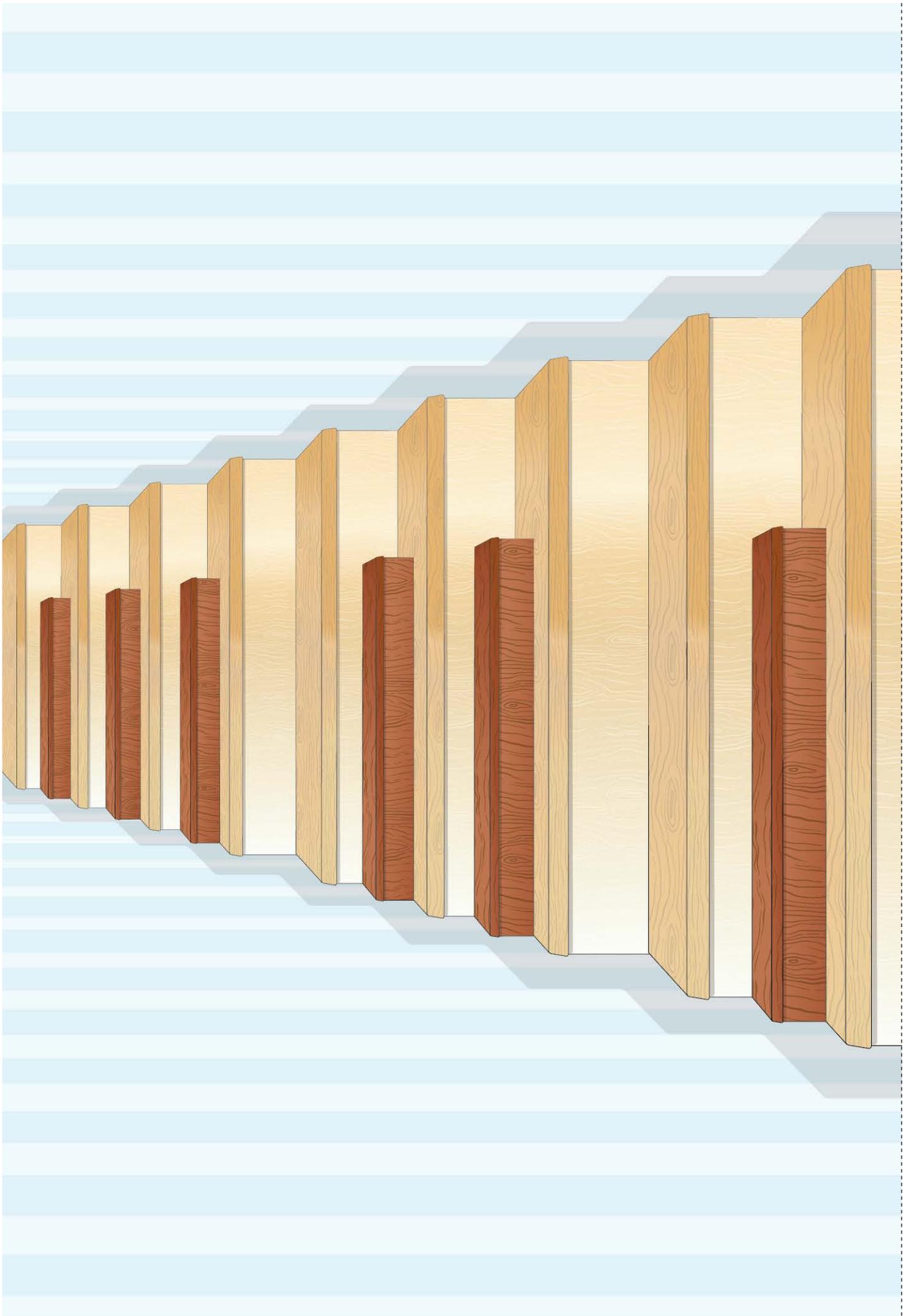
- Print out the small piano stairs board (page 3) or the large piano stairs board (pages 4–5).
- Print out the game cards (pages 6–11) double-sided. Cut apart and laminate if desired.
- You will also need a game token (button, eraser, small toy, etc.) for each player.

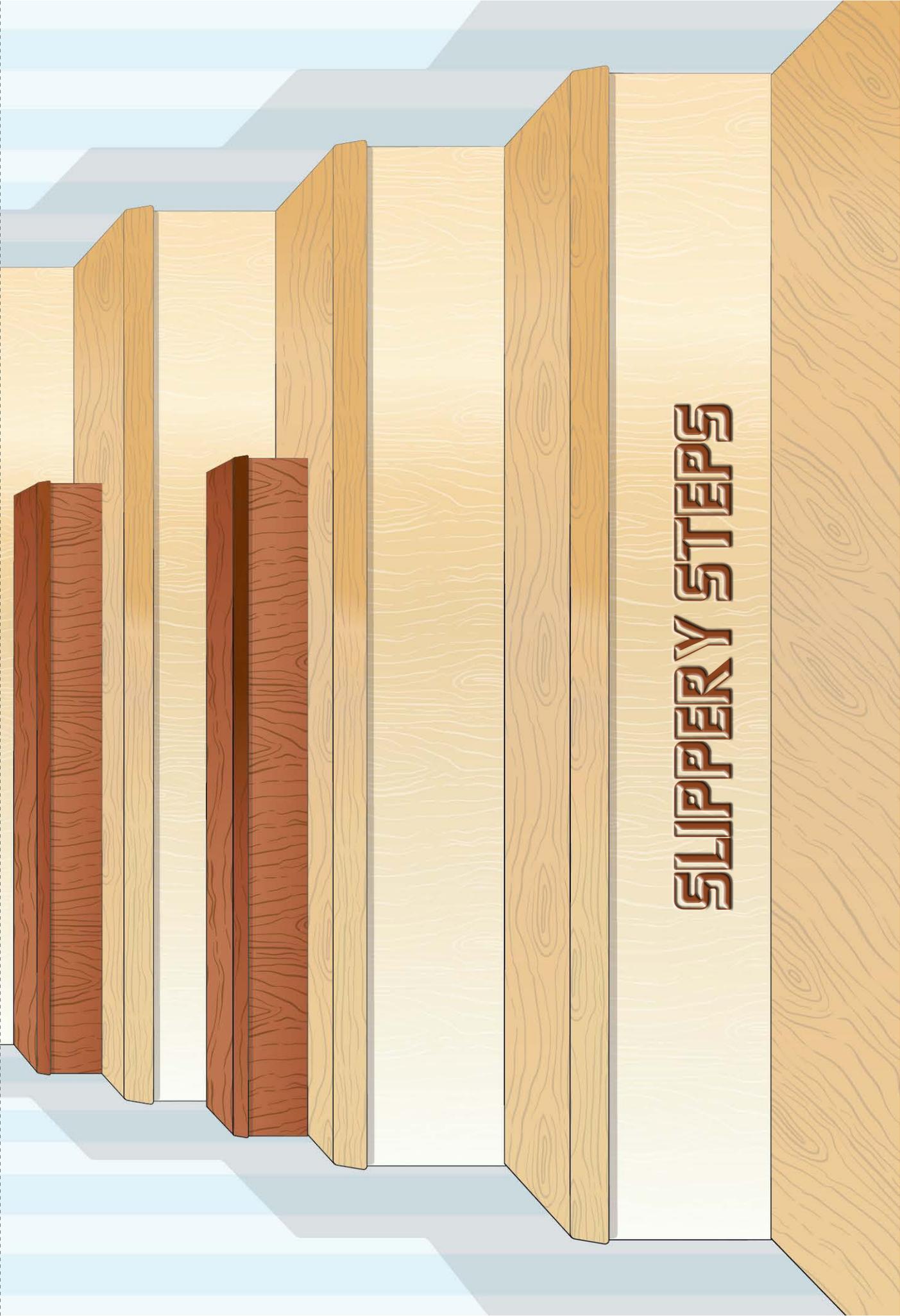
LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Slippery Steps helps students with the idea of tones and semitones, especially the fact that they can look different – on the piano or on stairs – but are still all equal.



SLIPPERY STEPS





SLIPPERY STEPS

1 SEMITONE

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2 SEMITONES

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3 SEMITONES

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4 SEMITONES

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1 TONE

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2 TONES

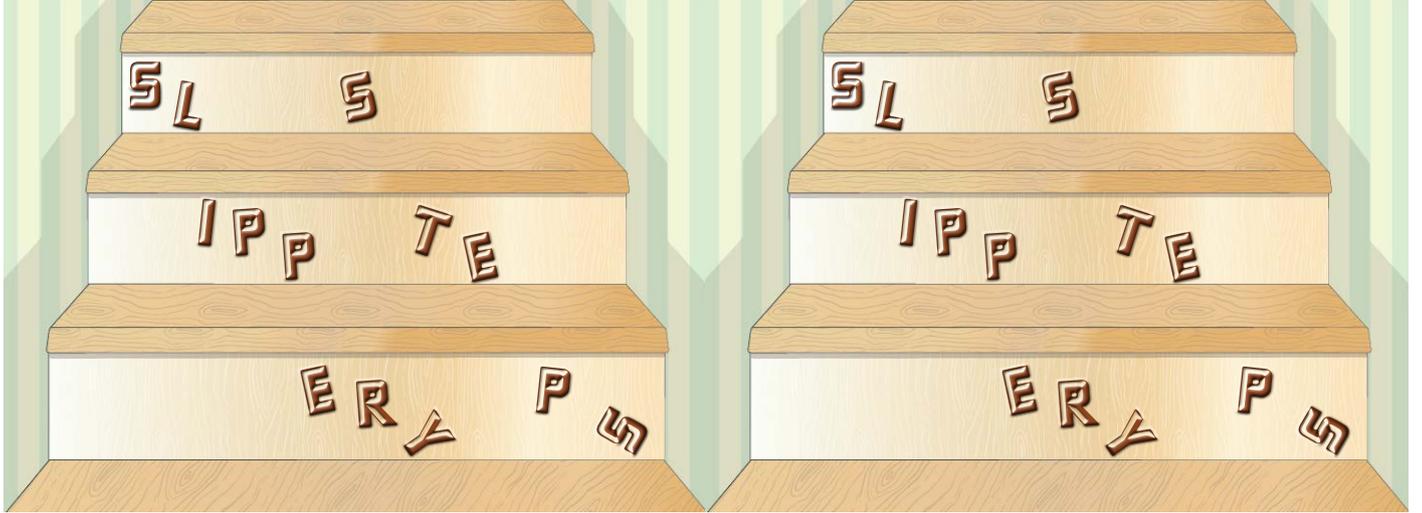
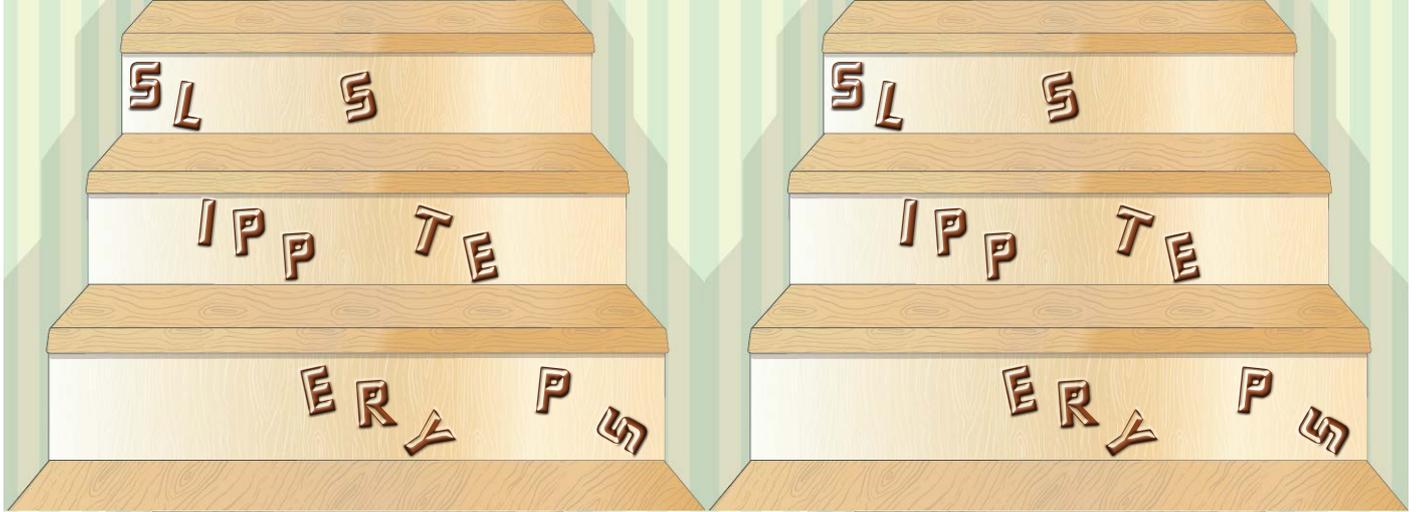
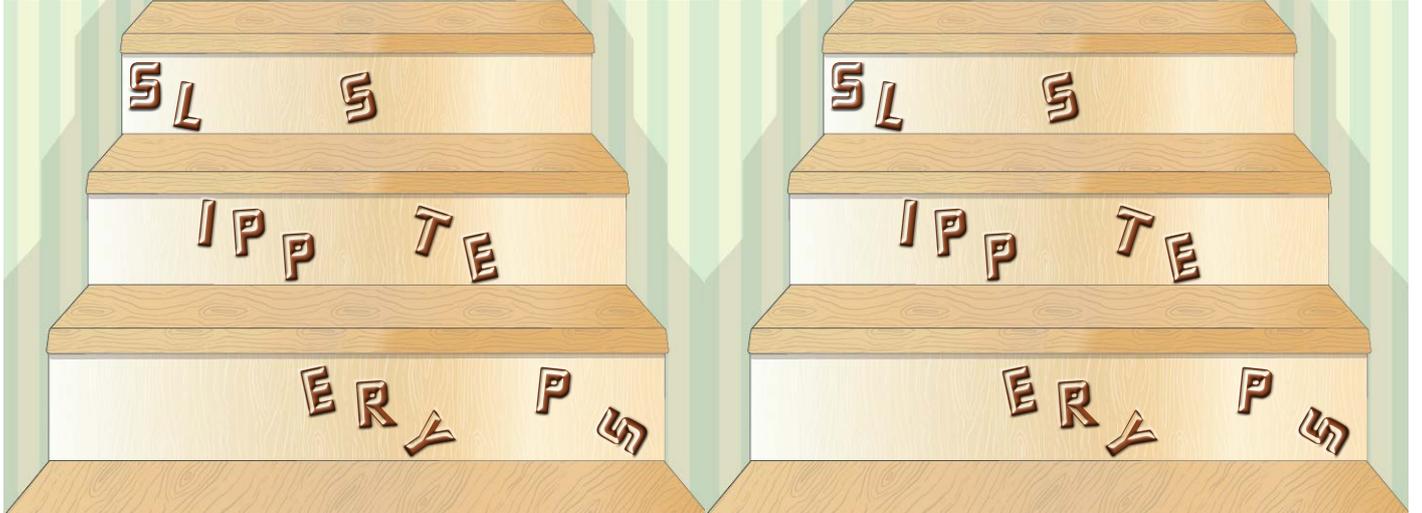
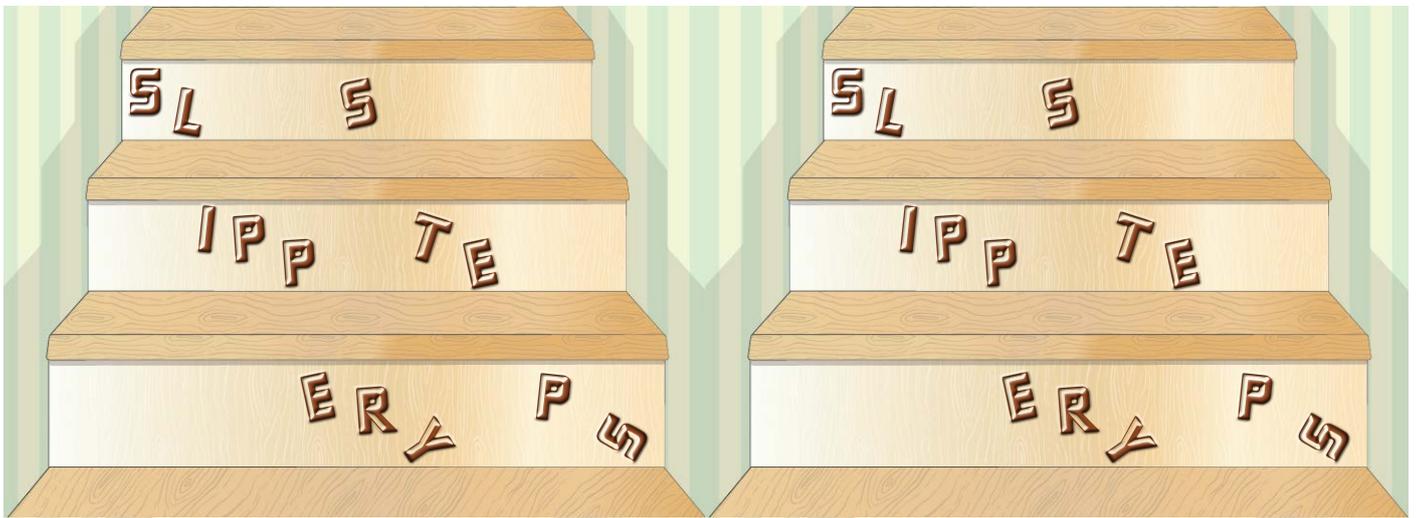
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3 TONES

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4 TONES

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1 SEMITONE

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3 SEMITONES

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ENHARMONIC

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ENHARMONIC

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1 TONE

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3 TONES

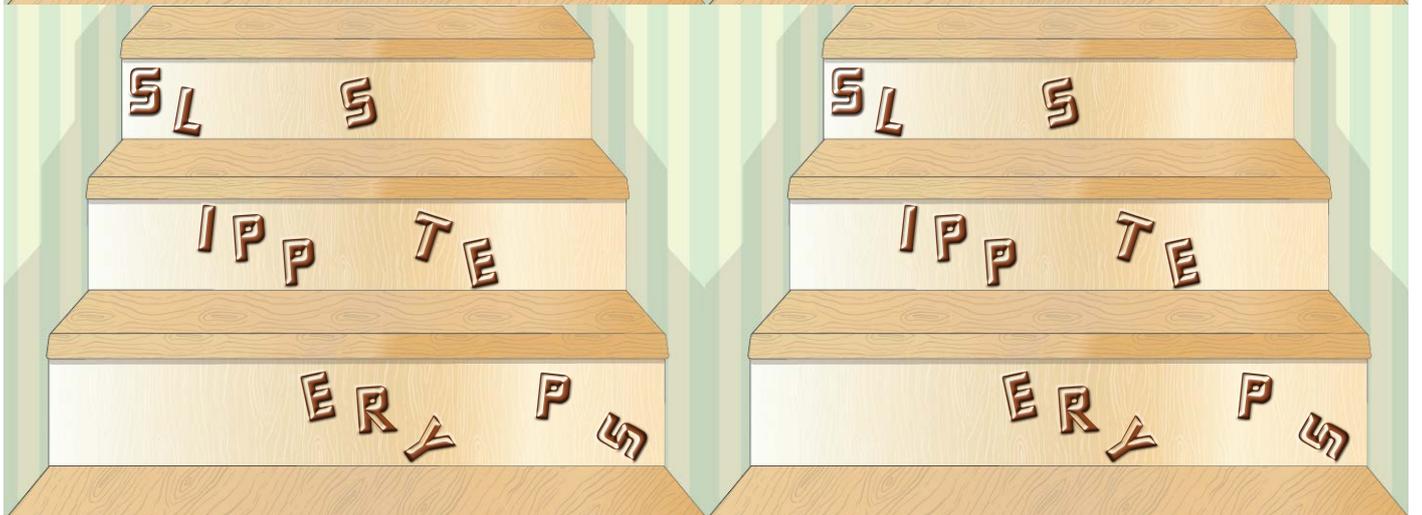
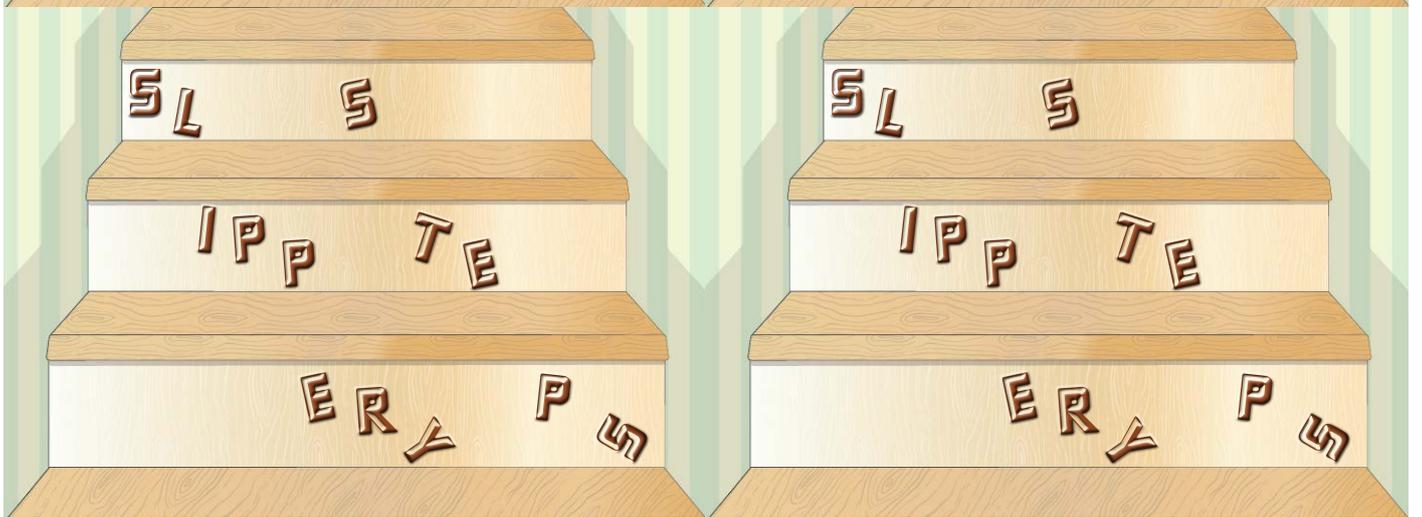
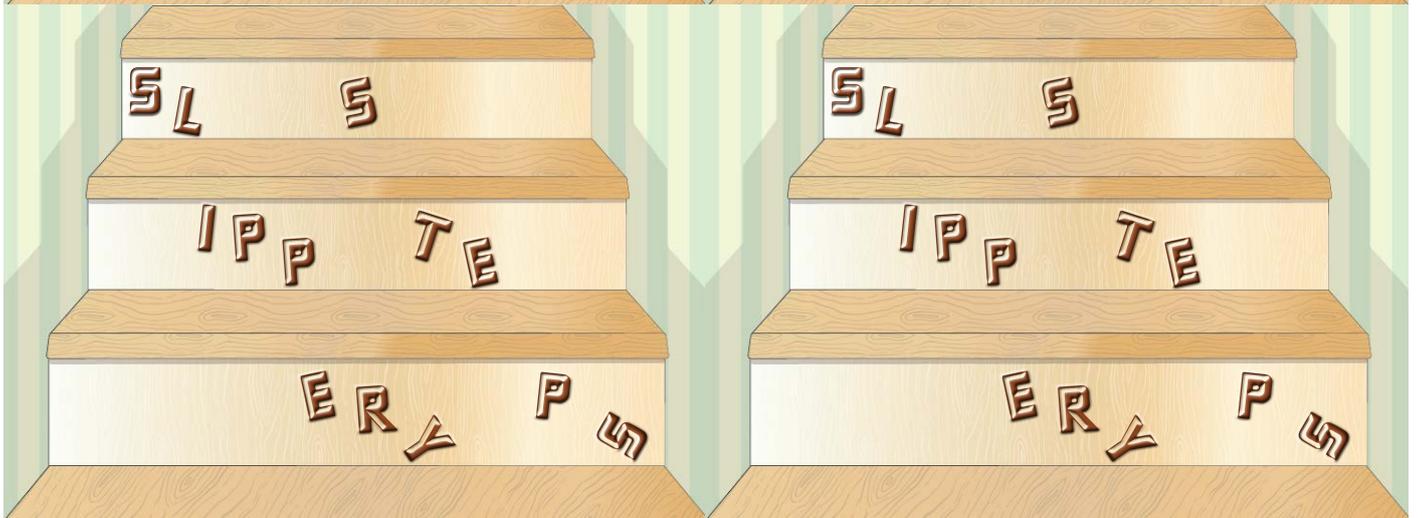
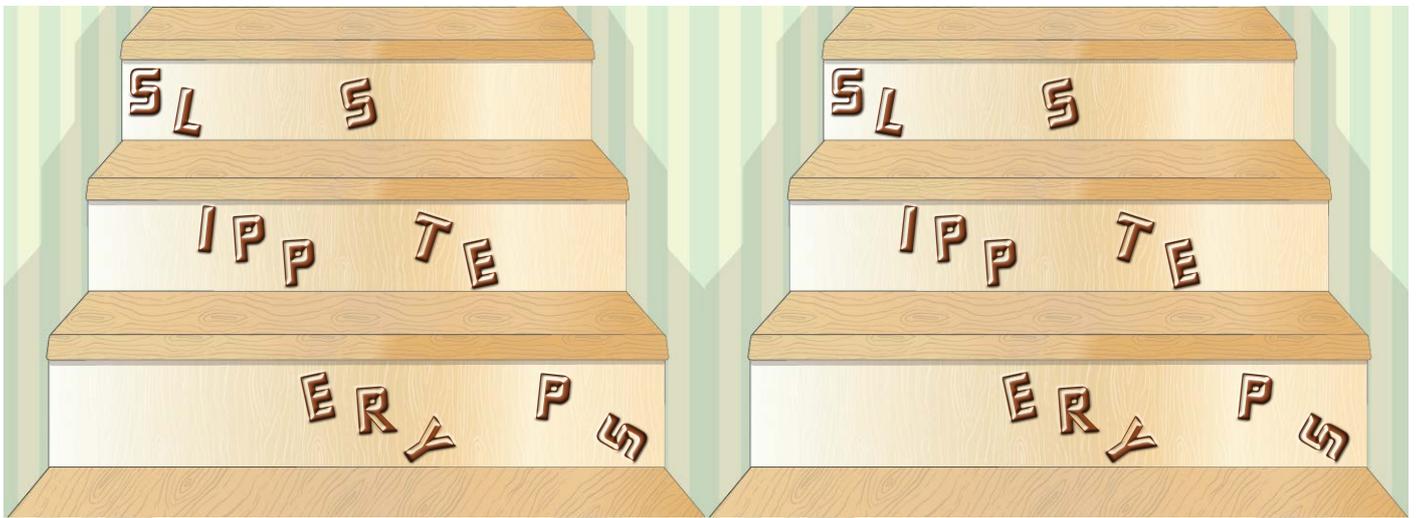
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1 SEMITONE

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1 SEMITONE

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2 SEMITONES

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ENHARMONIC

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1 SEMITONE

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