

Ostinato Explorations

HOW TO USE

- These cards are designed to be used with the Mini Musicians Two curriculum for group preschool music classes.
- Introduce each card one at a time (generally one at each lesson) and discuss the animal before demonstrating the ostinato pattern.
- Every pattern within one set is designed to work together so that you can create an ensemble of animals across several instruments.

ASSEMBLY

- Print out the game cards (pages 2-17) double-sided.
- Cut along the dotted lines.
- Laminate if desired.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

By exploring patterns young students learn about the different types of sounds the piano can make: loud and soft, short and long, low and high. They can also explore left and right hands, cross-body movement and playing with arm weight. They also learn to play as a group and listen to others as they play so that they can stay in time.

FIELD MOUSE



GRIZZLY BEAR



FOREST CREATIONS

FOREST CREATIONS

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PORCUPINE



WHITE-TAILED DEER



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GRIZZLY BEAR

Use two hands to play this pattern slowly with a steady beat.

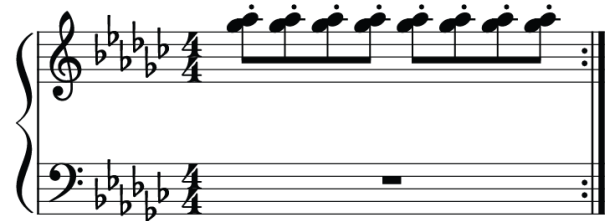


Think of a bear plodding along through the forest. Fall into the keys to create a strong sound.

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FIELD MOUSE

Play G flat and A flat with finger 2 of each hand or finger 2 and 3 of one hand up high.

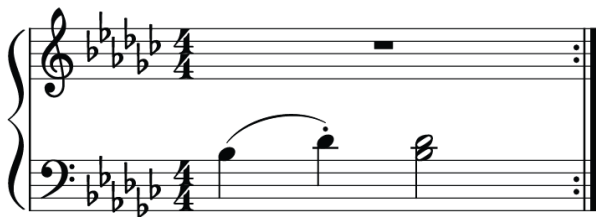


Make the sounds short and light like a mouse scuttling along the ground.

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WHITE-TAILED DEER

Play B flat with the left hand, then D flat with the right hand, then both together.



Say "white tail deeeeeer" to help with the rhythm.

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PORCUPINE

Play A flat and E flat together with finger 2 of each hand and then wait before playing again.



Say "ow, ow, ow, wait, wait" to help with the rhythm.

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CARPENTER ANT



GREY SQUIRREL



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MONARCH BUTTERFLY



RED FOX



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GREY SQUIRREL

Play D flat, E flat, D flat, B flat either with your right hand on the 2 black keys and left hand on the 3 black keys or by hopping with finger 2 of one hand.

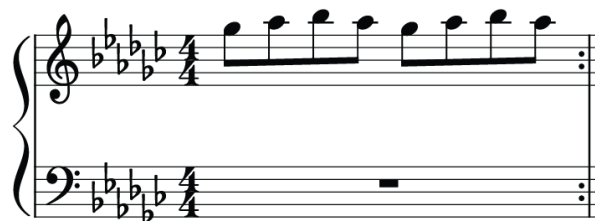


Say "squir-rel walk-ing" to help keep a steady beat.

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CARPENTER ANTS

Play G flat, A flat, B flat, A flat (up and down the 3 black keys) with fingers 2, 3 and 4 or by hopping from key to key with one finger.

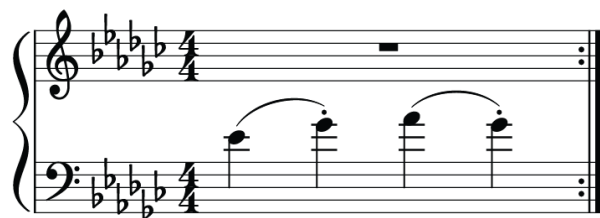


Try to play quite quickly but steadily, like a busy parade of carpenter ants on a mission!

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RED FOX

Play E flat, G flat, A flat, G flat either with your right hand on the 3 black keys and left hand on the 2 black keys or by hopping with finger 2 of one hand.

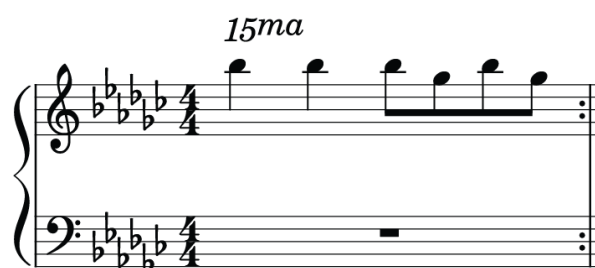


Say "sneak-y fox-y" to help with the articulation and the rhythm.

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MONARCH BUTTERFLY

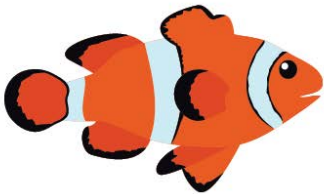
Put your right hand and left hand finger 2 either side of the 3 black keys at the top of the piano.



Say "but-ter fly-ing fly-ing" to help with the pattern and the rhythm.

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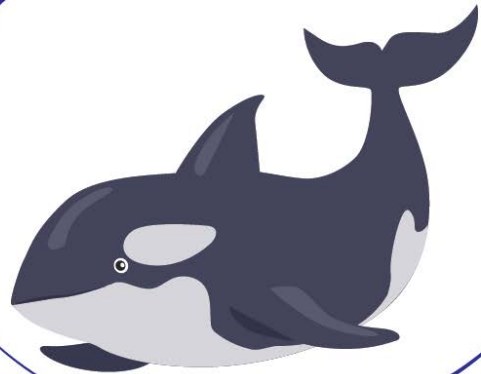
CLOWNFISH



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ORCA



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SEAHORSE



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SHAME FACED CRAB

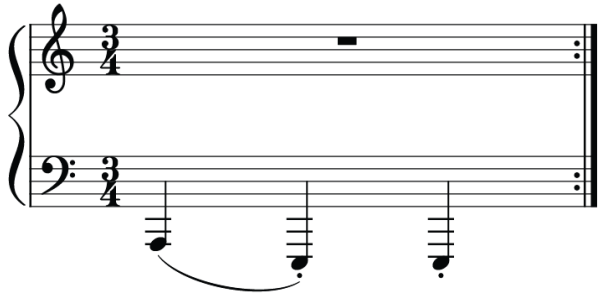


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ORCA

Play low A with your right hand and then E twice with your left hand.



Say "or-ca call" or "1 2 3" to help with the rhythm and the pattern.

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CLOWNFISH

Play 2 As with your left hand and then 3 Es with your right hand.



Say "swim-ming quick quick slow" to help with the rhythm and the pattern.

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SHAME-FACED CRAB

Play 4 notes stepping up from A with two hands side-by-side or one hand hopping from key to key.

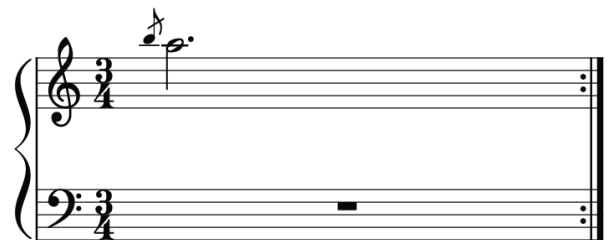


Say "scut-tle, scut-tle, wait" to help with the rhythm.

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SEAHORSE

Play B with your right hand then quickly change to A with your left hand and then hold.



Count "1 2 3" while you hold the note.

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HAMMERHEAD SHARK



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SEA LION



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BOX JELLYFISH



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STARFISH

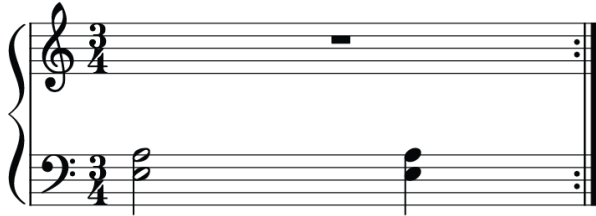


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SEA LION

Play A with your right hand and E with your left hand at the same time, once long, once short.

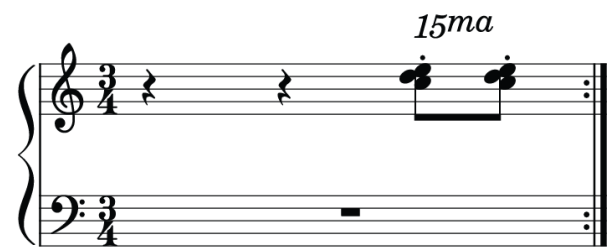


Say "aarph, bark" or "long, short" to help with the rhythm.

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HAMMERHEAD SHARK

Wait for 2 beats and then play very high C D and E together twice.

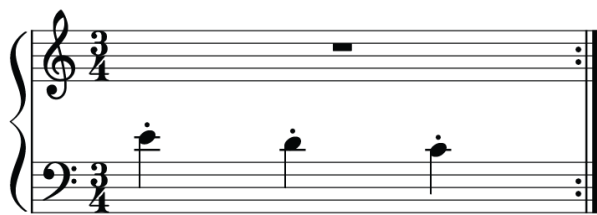


Say "wait, wait, snap snap!" to help with the rhythm and the articulation.

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STARFISH

Play 3 short notes stepping down from E with a steady beat.

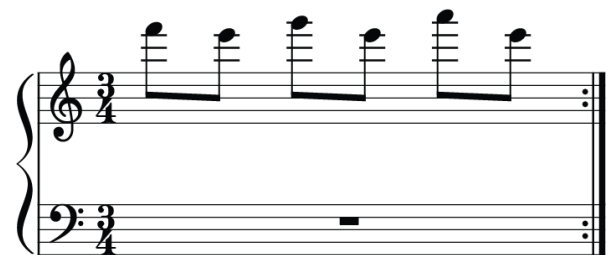


Say "star steps down" to help with the rhythm and the pattern.

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BOX JELLYFISH

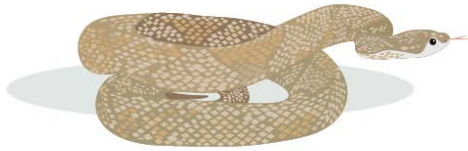
Place your right hand on F and your left hand next to it on E. Play rightleft right left right left, moving your right hand up one key each time.



Say "jel-ly up and up fish" to help with the pattern and movement.

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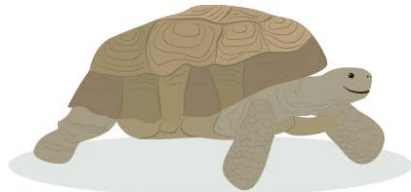
SIDEWINDER SNAKE



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SULCATA TORTOISE



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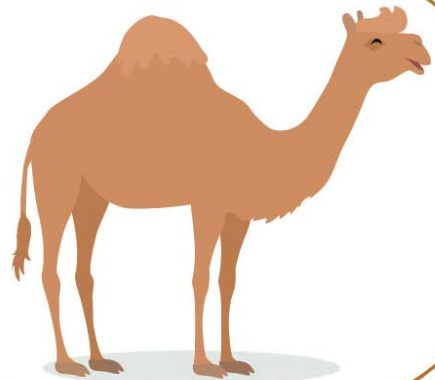
SAND CAT



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DROMEDARY CAMEL

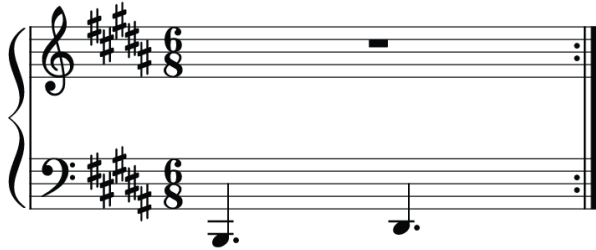


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SULCATA TORTOISE

Play B with your left hand then D sharp with your right hand with a slow and steady beat.

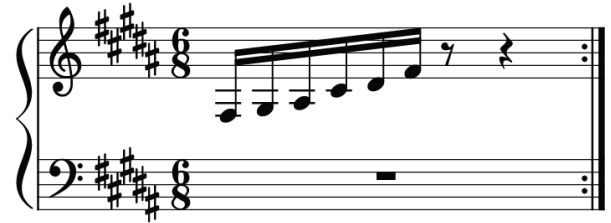


Think of a tortoise making careful and slow steps forward in the desert sand.

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SIDEWINDER SNAKE

Play F sharp G sharp A sharp with your left hand and then C sharp D sharp F sharp with your right hand as quickly as you can.

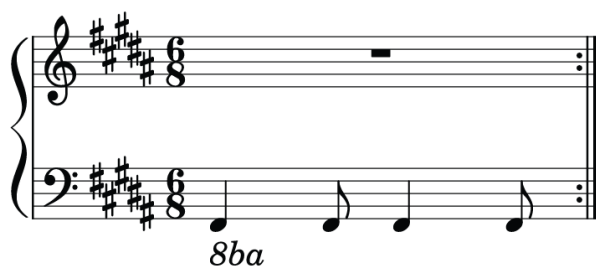


Pause for one beat before repeating and whisper "wait wait wait" during the rest.

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DROMEDARY CAMEL

Play a pattern of long short long short on low F sharp.

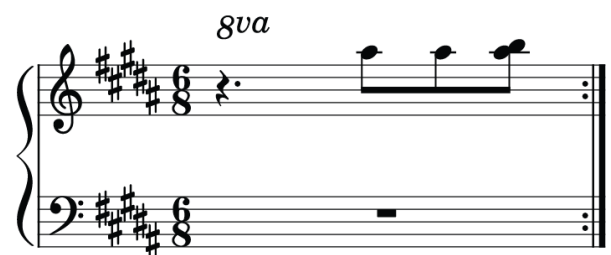


Say "cam-el cam-el" to help with the rhythm.

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SAND CAT

Wait for one beat then play A sharp twice and then A sharp and B together quite quickly.



Say "wait wait wait yow yow yow" to help with the rhythm.

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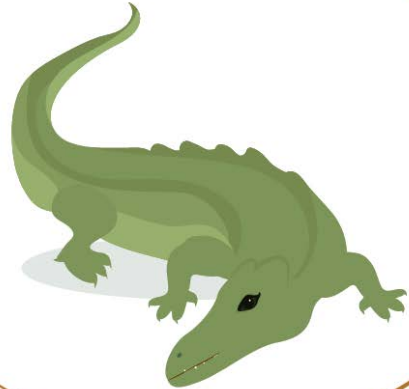
OSTRICH



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DESERT CROCODILE



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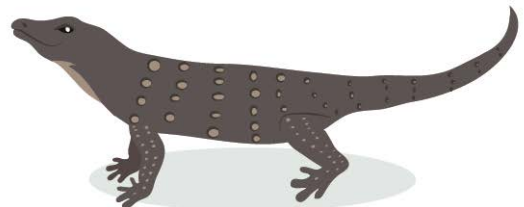
EMPEROR SCORPION



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MONITOR LIZARD



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DESERT CROCODILE

Play F sharp with your left hand together with A sharp and D sharp with your right hand.



Say "wait snap! wait wait wait" to help with the rhythm.

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OSTRICH

Play F sharp with your left hand, B with your right hand and then D sharp with your left hand or jump from key to key with one hand.

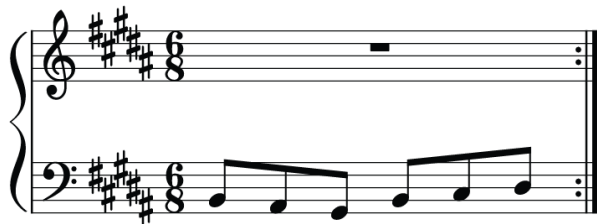


Say "stride, quick, pause" to help with the rhythm.

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MONITOR LIZARD

Play B A sharp G sharp with the left hand fingers 1 2 3, then B C sharp D sharp with right hand fingers 1 2 3.



Say "big liz-ard big liz-ard" to help keep a steady beat.

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EMPEROR SCORPION

Play A sharp with the right hand together with D sharp with the left hand. Step the right hand down and play D sharp and G sharp together twice.



Say "clack, clack, stiiiiiiiiing" to help with the rhythm and the pattern.

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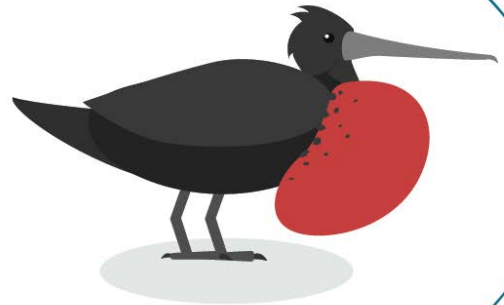
FRUIT BAT



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FRIGATEBIRD



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KINGFISHER



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BALD EAGLE

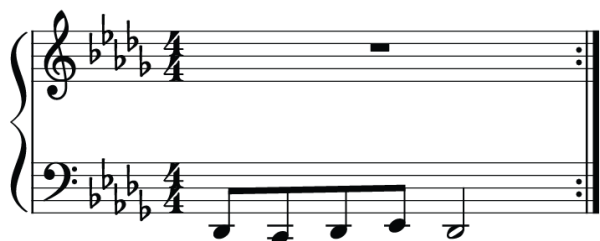


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MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD

Play D flat C D flat E flat D flat, holding the last note for 2 beats.

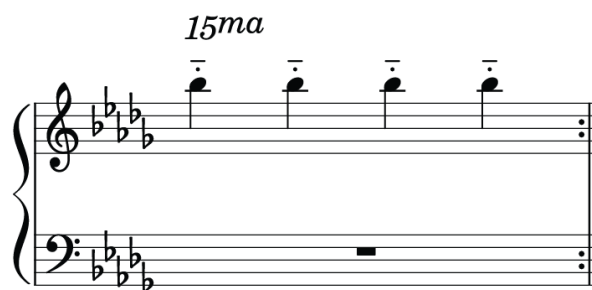


Say "mag-ni-fi-cent biiiiiird" to help with the rhythm.

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FRUIT BAT

Play high B flat with steady beat.



Think of a bat's persistent sonar call as he flies through the dark.

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BALD EAGLE

Place your right hand on the 3 black keys and left hand on the 2 black keys. Wait for two beats then step down the black keys from B flat to D flat as quickly as you can, pausing on the last note.

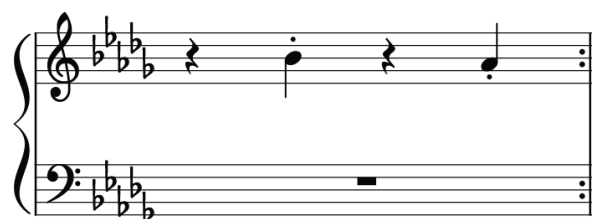


Say "swoo-oo-oo-oop down" to help with the rhythm and the pattern.

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KINGFISHER

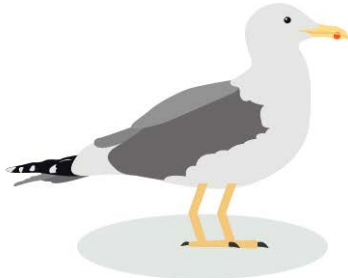
Alternate between B flat and A flat with a rest between each note. Make the notes short and light.



Say "wait, peck, wait, peck" to help with the rhythm.

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CASPIAN GULL



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PEACOCK



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HORNED PUFFIN



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SCREECH OWL

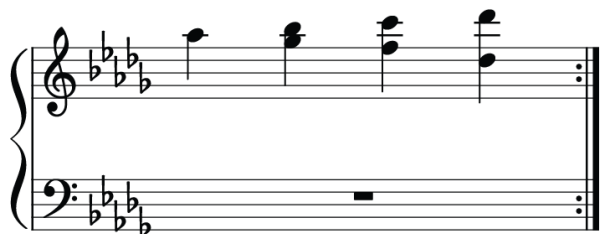


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PEACOCK

Play A flat, then B flat and G flat together with finger 2 of each hand, then step the hands away from each other to F and C, then step away again to D flat and D flat.



Say "o-pen fea-thers" to help with the pattern.

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CASPIAN GULL

Play A flat with your right hand and then 2 Fs with your left hand.



Say "caw, sea-gull" to help with the rhythm.

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SCREECH OWL

Play E flat D flat with your left hand and then F with your right as quickly as you can then wait for 3 beats.



Say "scree-ee-eech, shh lis-ten" to help with the rhythm.

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HORNED PUFFIN

Play E flat F G flat F with your right hand on the F and your left hand hopping between the black keys.



Say "puf-fin, puf-fin" to help with the rhythm.

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