Keyboard Kids' Companion

Created by Teachers & Approved by Kids
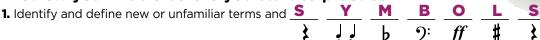
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Back-to-School Piano Practice Treasure Chest

Composers give us many hints for unlocking their musical treasures. It's our job to read and follow their clues in our daily practice. We will talk a lot about good practicing in upcoming issues of *Keyboard Kids' Companion*. Let's get started with a symbol review. Tell your teacher the name and meaning of each symbol in this Treasure Chest Key. Circle and review with your teacher symbols you don't know or don't remember.

Using the Key to crack the code, find a few ideas that will help you find musical treasures in your daily practice. Make these ideas part of your daily game plan!

Preview your music before you start to practice.

1. Identify and define new or unfamiliar terms and **S Y M B O L S** .

2. **C O L O R   C O D E** details, such as dynamics, to focus your attention when you practice.

3. Write in the counting for tricky rhythms. **C L A P** and **C O U N T** the rhythm before playing.

4. Set specific **G O A L S** for each piece before practicing.

Attention to details right from the start of your practicing sets you up for a great finish! Here are a just few ideas that can help you best pay attention to details:

1. Work in **S M A L L   S E C T I O N S** .

2. Practice each section using the HATT trick: **H A N D S   A L O N E** , then together.

3. Practice everything **S L O W L Y** to help build security in tricky passages.

4. Use a **V I D E O R E C O R D E R** as your practice "mirror."

You will understand your playing more clearly than ever!

To see the solution, go to www.claviercompanion.com.

What else can you think of that will help you with great practice sessions? Write your idea with the code word in a sentence spelled out in symbols from the Key. Ask your teacher to crack your code!

My Idea: _____

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