

PREPARATORY	CONCEPTS
Unit 1	At the piano; learning a natural hand position; the steady beat; pre-reading: two black keys
Unit 2	Learning finger numbers, posture, and arm weight; pre-reading: three black keys; double bar line; the white keys
Unit 3	Pre-reading: quarter and half notes; black-key groups; arm weight and flexible wrist; learning about melody; repeat sign
Unit 4	Pre-reading: learning CDE; loud (f) and soft (p); repeated notes; the slur; two-note slurs
Unit 5	Pre-reading: learning FGAB; bar lines and measures; phrases; whole notes
Unit 6	Pre-reading: learning CDEF; discovering 2nds/steps; the time signature; learning CDEFG (C position)
Unit 7	Pre-reading: discovering 3rds; discovering 4ths; dotted half notes; review of arm weight and flexible wrist
Unit 8	The staff: Guide Notes Middle C, Treble G, Bass F; discovering 5ths; Middle C position
Unit 9	Learning GAB in the L.H. on the staff; learning DEF in the R.H. on the staff; review of Middle C position; 2nds and 3rds; weight transfer; Bass C; review of C position
Unit 10	Playing 4ths on the staff; tempo markings; arm and wrist rotation; octave; the 8va sign; review of arm weight and two-note slurs; review of C position and Middle C position
Unit 11	The tie; the pedal; review of C position and Middle C position

GRADE 1	CONCEPTS
Unit 1	Review of the Preparatory Level: Middle C position; Guide Notes Treble G, Middle C, and Bass F; C position; posture and hand position; new dynamics <i>mp</i> and <i>mf</i>
Unit 2	Review of 2nds, 3rds, 4ths, and 5ths; slurs; phrasing; <i>legato</i> ; learning melodic and harmonic intervals; discovering B below Middle C in the Treble Clef; weight transfer
Unit 3	A above Guide Note G in the Treble Clef; quarter rest; <i>staccato</i> ; <i>legato</i> ; two-note slurs
Unit 4	Sharps and flats; flexible wrist and arm
Unit 5	G position; D above Middle C in the Bass Clef; tempo markings; flexible wrist
Unit 6	Half and whole rests
Unit 7	FACE in the Treble Clef; Treble C position; rotation and flexible wrist
Unit 8	Musical Form—AA1, AB, and ABA; dynamics ( <i>cresc. decresc.</i> )
Unit 9	Half and whole steps; D position; arm weight and rotation
Unit 10	Tonic and dominant
Unit 11	Bass G position (G starting a 4th below Bass C)
Unit 12	The natural sign
Unit 13	Upbeats
Unit 14	Accents

GRADE 2A	CONCEPTS
Unit 1	Technique at the Piano; eighth notes
Unit 2	Review of half and whole steps
Unit 3	Major five-finger patterns and triads in C, G, and D; review of tonic and dominant; review of transposition
Unit 4	The damper pedal; cross-hand arpeggio; key signature
Unit 5	Major and minor five-finger patterns and triads in C, G, and D
Unit 6	Low F in Bass Clef; review of intervals; first and second endings; <i>ritardando (rit.)</i>
Unit 7	A Major five-finger pattern and triad; E above Middle C in Bass Clef; the sonatina; A minor
Unit 8	The fermata; a tempo; the dotted quarter note; review of C Major, G Major, D Major and D minor, A Major and A minor, and F Major

GRADE 2B	CONCEPTS
Unit 1	Technique at the Piano; interval of a sixth; review of key signatures
Unit 2	Finger crossings to prepare for one-octave major scales
Unit 3	C Major scale and the I-V7-I cadence
Unit 4	G Major scale (with key signature) and the I-V7-I cadence; broken triad bass
Unit 5	D Major scale (with key signature) and the I-V7-I cadence; waltz bass
Unit 6	Ledger line notes above and below the staves
Unit 7	A Major scale (with key signature) and the I-V7-I cadence; discovering E Major
Unit 8	Review of minor five-finger patterns and triads; i-V7-i cadences; legato pedaling; eighth rest; <i>pp</i> ; <i>ff</i>
Unit 9	F Major scale (with key signature) and the I-V7-I cadence

GRADE 3	CONCEPTS
Unit 1	Technique at the Piano; review piece using I and V7; new time signature (3/8)
Unit 2	New time signature (6/8); compound meter; triads and inversions; review of arpeggios
Unit 3	IV chord and the I-IV-I cadence
Unit 4	I-IV-I-V7-I cadence in C Major; syncopation
Unit 5	I-IV-I-V7-I cadence in G Major; intervals of 7ths and octaves; new time signature: cut time ( <i>alla breve</i> )
Unit 6	I-IV-I-V7-I cadence in F Major; <i>Alberti</i> bass
Unit 7	Triplets; swing rhythm
Unit 8	Chromatic scales and chromatic passages
Unit 9	Key of A minor, 3 forms of A minor and cadence; sequence
Unit 10	Key of D minor, 3 forms of D minor and cadence

GRADE 4	CONCEPTS
Unit 1	Technique: review of two octave scales and arpeggios; triads and inversions, cadences; circle of fifths and naming key signatures; first inversion chords
Unit 2	Second inversion chords; rolled (arpeggiated) chords, review of finger substitution
Unit 3	Syncopation and interval review; melodic octaves
Unit 4	Rhythmic and melodic motives; ornamentation; two-part writing
Unit 5	The Key of E Minor, 3 forms of E minor and cadence
Unit 6	Exploring Pedal Technique ; review of major and minor triads and <i>ostinato</i> patterns
Unit 7	The key of B Flat Major
Unit 8	The key of G Minor, 3 forms of G minor and cadence; <i>pesante</i> , <i>portamento</i> touch
Unit 9	Sixteenth notes
Unit 10	Sixteenth note variants; more keys and their key signatures

## GRADE 5 – A Look Forward

Sixteenth note rhythms and variants – continuation of

Triplet eighths in simple time signatures with eighth notes

Relative minor scales - D/b, E/c#

Dominant seventh chords in root position, harmonic octaves

Review of key signatures

Diminished and augmented chords

Elements of Baroque and Classical Style: grace notes, trills

Review of key signatures and circle of fifths

Major and minor arpeggios, cont.

ii-V7-I chord progression

Blues, Samba

Intervals and qualities of them, continued

*Alberti* bass – continuation of

7th chords and inversions

*Una corda* pedal

Assymetrical rhythms and mixed meters

*presto, accelerando, grazioso; sf, sfz, fz,*

Double thirds, motive, *tremolo*, chordal playing