



TEACHER RESOURCES
Winter 2025 (Vol. 2, No. 2)

Play: Become a Movie Soundtrack Composer with Piano Inspires Kids!

1. Discuss the Role of Music
 - o Ask students how music shapes the emotions and scenes in movies.
 - o Introduce the goal of composing a soundtrack for a chosen video scene.
2. Watch and Analyze Videos
 - o Watch the videos together: "The Ragdoll Cat & The Magical Map," "The Story of Snowy Mountain Friends," "The Spring Carnival," and "The Lonesome Wolf," available on our YouTube channel, [@pianoinspireskids](https://www.youtube.com/@pianoinspireskids).
 - o Identify Story Elements: Help students outline each video's main story elements, moods, and characters.
3. Complete the Video Short Notes activity at kids.pianoinspires.com/explore/activities:
 - o *Story Order*: Write down each part of the story.
 - o *Mood*: Describe the mood in each section.
 - o *Characters*: Note each character's role and personality traits.
4. Plan the Composition
 - o Choose a Structure: Select a form (e.g., AB, ABA, ABACA) that matches the story flow.
 - o Select Key & Tempo:
 - *Key*: Use major keys for cheerful scenes and minor for suspenseful ones.
 - *Tempo*: Choose slow for calm, moderate for neutral, and fast for exciting sections.
5. Create Musical Themes
 - o Character Themes: Design simple, distinct themes for each character (e.g., high notes for energetic personalities).
 - o Mood & Rhythm: Use rhythm and dynamics to align with the action in each scene.
6. Perform & Reflect
 - o Play & Review: Have students play their compositions along with the video.
 - o Feedback: Discuss how well the music fits with the storyline and mood, encouraging reflections on what they like and might change.

Encourage students to submit their work to kids.pianoinspires.com/submit. Deadline for submission is March 15, 2024.

For more ideas on incorporating movie soundtracks into your teaching, see the article "[Silent Movie Accompanying for Students and Professionals](#)" by George Litterst, Penny Lazarus, and Donald Sosin in *Piano Magazine* (November 2012, Vol. 4, No. 6).