



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

Share: Do You Prefer Music Books or Digital Scores?

For Group Piano Classes:

1. Group Score Debate:
 - o Divide the class into two groups: one “team” in favor of paper scores and one in favor of digital. Let them come up with reasons for their preference as a team.
 - o Debate: Each team presents their case for why their format is more useful. Afterward, let each student reconsider their preference and vote again.
 - o Discuss: Wrap up by asking, “Did hearing the other side change your view?” to help them consider new perspectives.
2. Score Relay Challenge:
 - o Give each group a short piece in both formats (one copy on paper, one digital). Time how quickly they can set up and begin playing with each format.
 - o Reflect: After each round, ask, “Which format was faster or felt more comfortable to get started with?” This hands-on comparison can reveal their practical preferences.
 - o After everyone has tried both, have a brief group discussion. Tally votes on the board for a visual overview of the class preference.

For Individual Lessons:

1. Side-by-Side Practice:
 - o Provide the same piece in both formats and let the student try each side by side. After they’ve played a few measures on each, ask which felt more comfortable or easier to read.
 - o Reflection: Ask, “Which format helped you follow along better?” or “Did you notice anything different about focusing on the music with one format versus the other?”
2. Surprise Format Challenge:
 - o Introduce a new piece for the student to sight-read, surprising them by using a digital score. If you have a wireless pedal, bring it along so they can experience “turning pages” digitally. Have them play through the piece, then discuss the experience afterward.
 - o Ask: “What did you think of trying this format today?” and “Would you use this format if you were performing or practicing at home?” This surprise approach adds an element of fun while encouraging reflection.

For further inspiration on integrating digital sheet music into your teaching, see the article ["Digital Sheet Music Experiences for Teaching and Performance"](#) by Omar Roy in *Piano Magazine* (Autumn 2021; Vol. 13, No. 3).