

## TEACHER RESOURCES Spring 2025 (Vol. 2, No. 3)

Discover: Audiation and Melody Creation

## 1. Play Melodies: From Sight to Sound

- Look at the well-known melodies found on top of page 7 of *Piano Inspires Kids*.
  Ask students to audiate it in their heads, then sing the melody aloud without playing it on the piano. Afterward, have students write down the name of the song.
- o The next melody is not a popular song. After playing the starting note, ask students to audiate and sing the pitches aloud. Then play the notes on the piano.
- o Discuss each melody by asking:
  - Did you recognize the well-known melodies before playing them on the piano?
  - Was it challenging to identify the second melody?
  - How did you use your understanding of intervals to help you sing the correct notes?

## 2. Create Your Own Melody

- o Ask students to sing a melody starting on middle C, using the rhythm pattern found on the bottom of page 7.
- o After singing, encourage them to write their melody on the staff without playing it on the piano.
- o Encourage students to keep the melody simple, focusing on using steps and repeated notes.
- o After playing their melody on the piano, ask students:
  - Does the music you wrote on the staff match the music you sang?
  - How did you use intervals to create your melody?

## 3. Explore More Audiation Activities

- o Go to <u>kids.pianoinspires.com/explore/activities</u> to download more audiation exercises.
- 4. Use these audiation exercises in group classes by having one student sing a melody while others write down what they hear.

For more insights into how listening, singing, auditioning, improvising, reading, and writing can enhance music education, especially in the context of piano instruction, see Edwin Gordon's article "Beyond the Keyboard" in Piano Magazine, January 2016, Vol. 8, No. 1.