

Approach: One to one
 Focus: Playing music on keyboard or chime bars
 Resources: Keyboard, chime-bar set, 6 sheets of music

Questions / instructions:

For this activity you can choose to use the keyboard or the chime bars.

Which would you like to use?

Allow student to make the choice.

Before we start the activity you can have a little play around on the keyboard/chime-bars to get some idea of what it sounds like. You can do that now.

Encourage student to explore the keyboard without being too directive.



	% response 2004 ('00)			% response 2004 ('00)								
	year 4	year 8		year 4	year 8							
1. To start off our activities, is there a tune or a piece of music you can play, or part of a tune? If "no" – go to question 3. If "yes" – carry on. I'd like to hear that, so you have a go at playing it now. First "own choice" piece: complex piece, played well <i>(e.g. 2 hands playing)</i> simple piece, played well complex piece, played moderately well simple piece, played moderately well piece played poorly no piece played	3 (2)	7 (4)	9 (8)	14 (24)	3 (4)	8 (8)	14 (23)	19 (21)	23 (14)	13 (13)	48 (49)	39 (30)
2. Is there something else you can play? If "yes", ask the student to play it. Second "own choice" piece: complex piece, played well <i>(e.g. 2 hands playing)</i> simple piece, played well complex piece, played moderately well simple piece, played moderately well piece played poorly no piece played	2 (3)	4 (4)	3 (6)	6 (9)	2 (0)	3 (2)	8 (2)	11 (4)	9 (9)	7 (10)	76 (80)	69 (71)

3. I'm going to show you some short pieces of music for playing on the keyboard or the chime bars. If you don't feel that you can play them, that's okay. You don't have to play them if you don't know how to.

This task should be discontinued at the point when the student indicates they cannot play the tunes.

4. Here is a short tune. If you think you can play some or all of it, you can try now.
 It starts on note G – the blue bar (*chime bars*)
 – the key with G written on it (*keyboard*)



	y4		y8			y4		y8	
First sight-reading: Notes					First sight-reading: Rhythm/Timing				
correct throughout	14 (14)	37 (41)	correct throughout	17 (14)	36 (37)				
mostly correct	4 (3)	4 (4)	mostly accurate	14 (14)	16 (14)				
half or fewer notes correct	8 (6)	7 (4)	inaccurate	50 (52)	27 (29)				
limited attempt	55 (57)	31 (31)	no attempt	19 (20)	21 (20)				
no attempt	19 (20)	21 (20)							

5. Here is the next tune for you to try. It starts on G.



	y4		y8			y4		y8	
Second sight-reading: Notes					Second sight-reading: Rhythm/Timing				
correct throughout	14 (7)	31 (28)	correct throughout	12 (12)	24 (23)				
mostly correct	6 (5)	11 (10)	mostly accurate	16 (17)	27 (30)				
half or fewer notes correct	5 (13)	12 (11)	inaccurate	52 (48)	24 (28)				
limited attempt	55 (52)	21 (32)	no attempt	20 (23)	25 (19)				
no attempt	20 (23)	25 (19)							

% response
2004 ('00)
year 4 • year 8

% response
2004 ('00)
year 4 • year 8

6. Here is the third tune for you to try. It also starts on G.



Third sight-reading : Notes

	y4	y8
correct throughout	7 (5)	21 (22)
mostly correct	5 (4)	13 (14)
half or fewer notes correct	8 (5)	10 (8)
limited attempt	47 (47)	23 (33)
no attempt	33 (39)	33 (23)

Third sight-reading : Rhythm/Timing

	y4	y8
correct throughout	3 (5)	12 (8)
mostly accurate	14 (10)	26 (31)
inaccurate	49 (46)	28 (38)
no attempt	34 (39)	34 (23)

7. Here is the fourth tune.



Fourth sight-reading : Notes

	y4	y8
correct throughout	3 (0)	17 (17)
mostly correct	6 (9)	10 (14)
half or fewer notes correct	6 (5)	11 (11)
limited attempt	38 (41)	21 (20)
no attempt	47 (45)	41 (38)

Fourth sight-reading : Rhythm/Timing

	y4	y8
correct throughout	1 (0)	9 (9)
mostly accurate	7 (16)	19 (28)
inaccurate	45 (39)	30 (26)
no attempt	47 (45)	42 (37)

8. Here is the fifth tune.



Fifth sight-reading : Notes

	y4	y8
correct throughout	3 (2)	11 (12)
mostly correct	4 (4)	14 (16)
half or fewer notes correct	7 (3)	10 (13)
limited attempt	35 (34)	15 (18)
no attempt	51 (57)	50 (41)

Fifth sight-reading : Rhythm/Timing

	y4	y8
correct throughout	1 (0)	6 (6)
mostly accurate	6 (8)	19 (29)
inaccurate	42 (35)	25 (24)
no attempt	51 (57)	50 (41)

9. Now try the last tune.



Sixth sight-reading : Notes

	y4	y8
correct throughout	1 (2)	6 (1)
mostly correct	5 (2)	16 (28)
half or fewer notes correct	5 (2)	8 (5)
limited attempt	30 (33)	13 (19)
no attempt	59 (61)	57 (47)

Sixth sight-reading : Rhythm/Timing

	y4	y8
correct throughout	0 (0)	3 (0)
mostly accurate	4 (4)	13 (18)
inaccurate	37 (35)	27 (35)
no attempt	59 (61)	57 (47)

	y4	y8
Total score: 11–12	5 (4)	11 (11)
9–10	6 (8)	15 (16)
7–8	8 (3)	15 (17)
5–6	11 (9)	12 (16)
3–4	26 (35)	19 (15)
1–2	33 (30)	18 (18)
0	11 (11)	10 (7)

Commentary:

The total score was based on the first "own choice" piece and the first sight-reading piece. Over 40 percent of students at both year levels attempted all six sight-reading pieces, despite about two thirds of the year 4 students making these attempts having very little success in their performances. There was no meaningful change for either year group between 2000 and 2004. About 20 percent more year 8 than year 4 students performed reasonably well (a total score of seven or more).