



Introducing *Desert Rose*

(Memory map: page 7)

1. Play, ask questions, and sing:

- Play “Desert Rose” for the student and ask the following questions:

Is this piece played on white keys or black keys?

Does this piece use pedal? Which one?

Do the musical patterns in this piece go up or down?

Which hand begins the piece?

What else do you notice about the music?

- Play the piece again and sing the words. Ask the student to count the number of times the phrase “*desert rose*” occurs.
- Without playing, clap quarter notes while singing the words together.

2. Break it down:

- Help the student find the starting position for each hand and identify the fingers used. Demonstrate the steps below one at a time, allowing the student to repeat each one until it is mastered.

Step 1
m. 1

mp
Des - ert rose,

Step 2
mm. 1-3

mp
Des - ert rose,
des - ert rose,
LH 3
des - ert rose

Step 3
mm. 1-4

mp
Des - ert rose,
des - ert rose,
des - ert rose
LH 3
LH 3
bloom - ing.

Step 4
mm. 5-8

p
Des - ert rose,
des - ert rose,
des - ert rose,
LH 3
LH 3
grow.

- Once all steps have been mastered, ask the student to play the entire piece.
- Look at the memory map together and invite the student to add details.

3. Repeat with variations:

- Ask the student to play the piece again. If appropriate, have the student play the entire piece with the damper pedal.
- Play the duet part with the student (teacher pedals).
- Ask the student to play the piece in a contrasting style.

Replace the words:

“Desert rose blooming. Desert rose grow,” with

“Yellow truck, honk, honk. Yellow truck, CRASH!”

Play a loud cluster of low black notes for the “CRASH!”