Sound Sight-Reading Worksheet

Kit and Kaboodle

Student page 36, Score page 274, Exercise 78

Each song has both a melody (Part A) and accompaniment (Part B). Be sure to practice playing both.

Look ahead, and aim for the S.T.A.R.S.!

The letters of the acronym, S.T.A.R.S, stand for important musical elements you should observe prior to performing any music:

- **1. Signatures** (time and key)—How many beats per measure? What notes in this line are affected by the key signature?
- **2. Tempo** (and other expressive markings)—How fast and with what character should the music be played?
- **3. Accidentals**—Where do they occur and for how long before returning to the "normal" (diatonic) note(s)?
- **4. Rhythms**—Are there any complex rhythms that should be examined? How should the rhythmic subdivisions be counted?
- **5. Signs** (repeats, endings, segno, coda, etc.)—What is the "roadmap" for this piece?

Dynamics & expression:

- There are many dynamic and articulation changes—make sure to look ahead for those.
- Once you learn the notes and rhythms, go back and play it again as musically as you can, using those dynamic and articulation changes.

Rhythm:

- There are a variety of eighth-note (and eighth-rest) rhythms in this tune. Write in the counts for the line of music.
- Say, then clap the rhythms, whispering counts for rests.
- Have a friend or family member count while you play the music.

Practice

- Tongue the notes, pushing air using a neutral syllable such as "Too" or "Doo."
- Sing or say the notes of the line slowly, optionally fingering.

Question to answer before you start:

Why are some eighth notes beamed together in pairs, while others are not?

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Time to play!

- You might consider slowing the tempo a bit (poco rit.) just before the final *sforzando* note. Although it isn't indicated, slowing the pace slightly near a final cadence is a common interpretation.
- Try to avoid a harsh, unfocused tone.

SmartMusic:

- If you have SmartMusic, see how far you can make it through the line until you make a mistake. Challenge yourself to do better each time!
- Check out Sight Reading Builder for more sight-reading exercises!