



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS
DIVISION OF CITY SCHOOLS - TAGBILARAN CITY

**Office of the Schools
Division Superintendent**

August 7, 2025

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 525 s. 2025

CAPTAIN ROC'S MUSICAL ADVENTURES

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief CID and SGOD
Public Elementary and Secondary School Principals
Public Elementary and Secondary School MAPEH Coordinators
All Others Concerned

1. This Office hereby disseminates the content of regional Memorandum No. 0762 and the communication from Mr. Stephen Howe of Captain Roc's Musical Adventures, requesting endorsement and referrals to connect with schools and school heads for the presentation of the newly produced Book 1 of Captain Roc's Musical Adventures.
2. Presentation of the newly produced Book 1 of Captain Roc's Musical Adventures in public elementary and secondary schools in this division shall be subject to the compliance with the No Disruption of Classes policies outlined in DepEd Order No.9, s. 2005 titled "Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-On-Tasks". Additionally presentation of the said newly produced Book 1 of Captain Roc's Musical Adventures must adhere to the No Collection Policy as articulated in Section 3 of RA No. 5546, An Act Prohibiting the Sale of Tickets and/or the Collection of Contribution for Whatever Purpose or Projects from Students and Teachers of Public and Private Schools.
3. For more details please refer to the attached Regional Memorandum No. 0762 and the Communication received from Mr. Stephen Howe.
4. Immediate dissemination of, and compliance with this Memorandum are directed.

WILFREDA D. BONGALOS PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

WDB/JAAL/CID/JTB/aal



H. Zamora St., Dampas, Tagbilaran City, Bohol
(038)427-1702; (038)427-2506
tagbilarancity.division@deped.gov.ph



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS

0020094
 [Handwritten signature]

Office of the Regional Director

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 074 s. 2025

30 JUL 2025

CAPTAIN ROC'S MUSICAL ADVENTURES

To: Schools Division Superintendents
 Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
 All Others Concerned

1. This Office disseminates the communication received from Mr. Stephen Howe of *Captain Roc's Musical Adventures*, requesting endorsement and referrals to connect with schools and school heads for the presentation of the newly produced *Book 1 of Captain Roc's Musical Adventures*.
2. Support to the said request is subject to the discretion and approval of the Schools Division Superintendents.
3. For details, please see attached enclosures.
4. Immediate dissemination of, and compliance with this Memorandum are directed.

[Handwritten signature]

SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ JD, EdD, CESO III
 Director IV
 Regional Director

SLD/FYA/CLMD/EBE/J/jpo

7-347
DEPED TAGBILARAN CITY DIVISION
SDS OFFICE
DOWNLOADED
 BY _____ DATE: 7/31/2025



Doña M. Gaisano St., Sudlon, Lahug, Cebu City
 Telephone Number: 639773295904 local 700

DepEd Tayo Region VII

region7.deped.gov.ph



Fwd: Captain Roc's Musical Adventures Book 1

1 message

JUVELYN OTERO <juvelyn.otero@deped.gov.ph>
To: nikkiesaberon@gmail.com

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 2:54 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Captain Roc** <captainroc@jazzroc.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 14, 2025 at 2:29 PM
Subject: Fwd: Captain Roc's Musical Adventures Book 1
To: juvelyn.otero@deped.gov.ph Otero <juvelyn.otero@deped.gov.ph>

Please find the email confirmation and details we discussed earlier.
And again a very happy birthday to you, have a wonderful day
God Bless
Steve

JUL 21 2025

9

Captain Roc
JazzRoc.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Captain Roc** <captainroc@jazzroc.com>
Date: Mon, 14 Jul 2025 at 14:22
Subject: Captain Roc's Musical Adventures Book 1
To: <emiliano.elnar@deped.gov.ph>, <salustiano.jimenez@deped.gov.ph>, <juvelyn.otero@deped.gov.ph>

Sir Salustiano T. Jimenez Regional Director

Dr. Emiliano B Elnar Jr. Chief Education Supervisor Region 7 Curriculum & Learning Management Division (CLMD)

Dr. Juvelyn Tero Regional Coordinator

It was a pleasure to be able to visit the Department Offices today and present the newly produced Book 1 of Captain Roc's Musical Adventures.

We are attaching the letter of full introduction as requested so that we might receive your process of endorsement and referrals in order that we can connect with the schools, principals and network with potential partners to supply this resource across the region.

We are just putting the final touches to the Teachers Guide, a book for the school teachers to follow with material, tips and examples to follow to enable the lessons 'to be educational and entertaining in equal measure.'

Please do not hesitate to contact us for anything that needs attention or questions to address so that we may push ahead to supply this project into the community.

Yours Sincerely



Stephen Howe
Mob 09695209950

JazzRoc.com

Dr. Emiliano B. Elnar Jr.

Chief Education Supervisor
Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD)
Region VII, Department of Education

Dr. Juvelyn Otero

Regional Coordinator
Department of Education – Region VII

Subject: Proposal to Introduce “Captain Roc’s Musical Adventures” – A Music Education Program for Elementary Learners

Dear Dr. Elnar and Dr. Tero,

Warm greetings, and thank you for the opportunity to meet and present the project we are passionate about. We are pleased to formally submit our proposal for your review, and we deeply appreciate your guidance in helping us bring this initiative to the schools and learners across Region VII.

We are excited to introduce “**Captain Roc’s Musical Adventures**,” an innovative, story-based music education program designed especially for elementary students in the Philippines. Our mission is to make music learning an accessible, enjoyable, and enriching experience for every child.

About the Program

“Captain Roc’s Musical Adventures” takes students on a creative journey alongside the fictional Captain Roc and his crew, who explore the world of music through stories, colorful characters, and interactive lessons. The foundational component of the program is a beginner-friendly workbook that introduces students to:

- The piano keyboard
- Basic rhythm and note-reading
- Playing their first melodies

This approach provides a solid musical foundation while making complex ideas easy to understand and fun to learn.

Key Features

- **Beginner-Friendly Workbook**
Developed to help young learners engage with music even without prior exposure.
- **Teacher’s Guide**
The program comes with a comprehensive teaching guide, designed to be user-friendly for both trained and non-specialist teachers, allowing them to lead music lessons in the classroom confidently.
- **Culturally Relevant Content**
Lessons also incorporate Filipino traditional instruments, songs, and movements, fostering cultural appreciation alongside musical development.

- **Active Learning Integration**

Activities include singing, movement, games, and coloring exercises aligned with the Music and Arts components of the MAPEH curriculum.

Accessibility and Support

We understand the challenges many schools face, particularly the lack of trained music teachers and limited access to resources. To help address these, we are:

- Partnering with sponsors to **fully subsidize the cost of the workbooks**, making them available to schools **free of charge**
- Providing **one digital keyboard** for every 50 sponsored books to support music instruction
- Offering **free access** to digital platforms, including an official **website and YouTube channel** featuring instructional content and supporting materials

Additionally, we are happy to coordinate with any local organizations or potential sponsors you may recommend to extend this program's reach further.

We are proud to share that this initiative is also supported by students from Captain Roc's home community in Sydney, Australia, who are donating books and are eager to connect with Filipino students in a spirit of **cultural exchange and partnership**.

Our Proposal

We respectfully propose to partner with your office to **distribute the workbooks and teacher resources at no cost** to selected schools within the region. Our team will ensure that all materials, tools, and digital support are made available as part of a sponsored program in collaboration with local, national, and international partners.

We believe "Captain Roc's Musical Adventures" supports the Department of Education's goals for holistic development, cultural awareness, and creative expression in the basic education curriculum.

Thank you once again for your time and consideration. We look forward to the possibility of working together to bring the joy of music into the lives of learners throughout Region VII.

Warm regards,

Stephen Howe

JazzRoc.com

captainroc@jazzroc.com

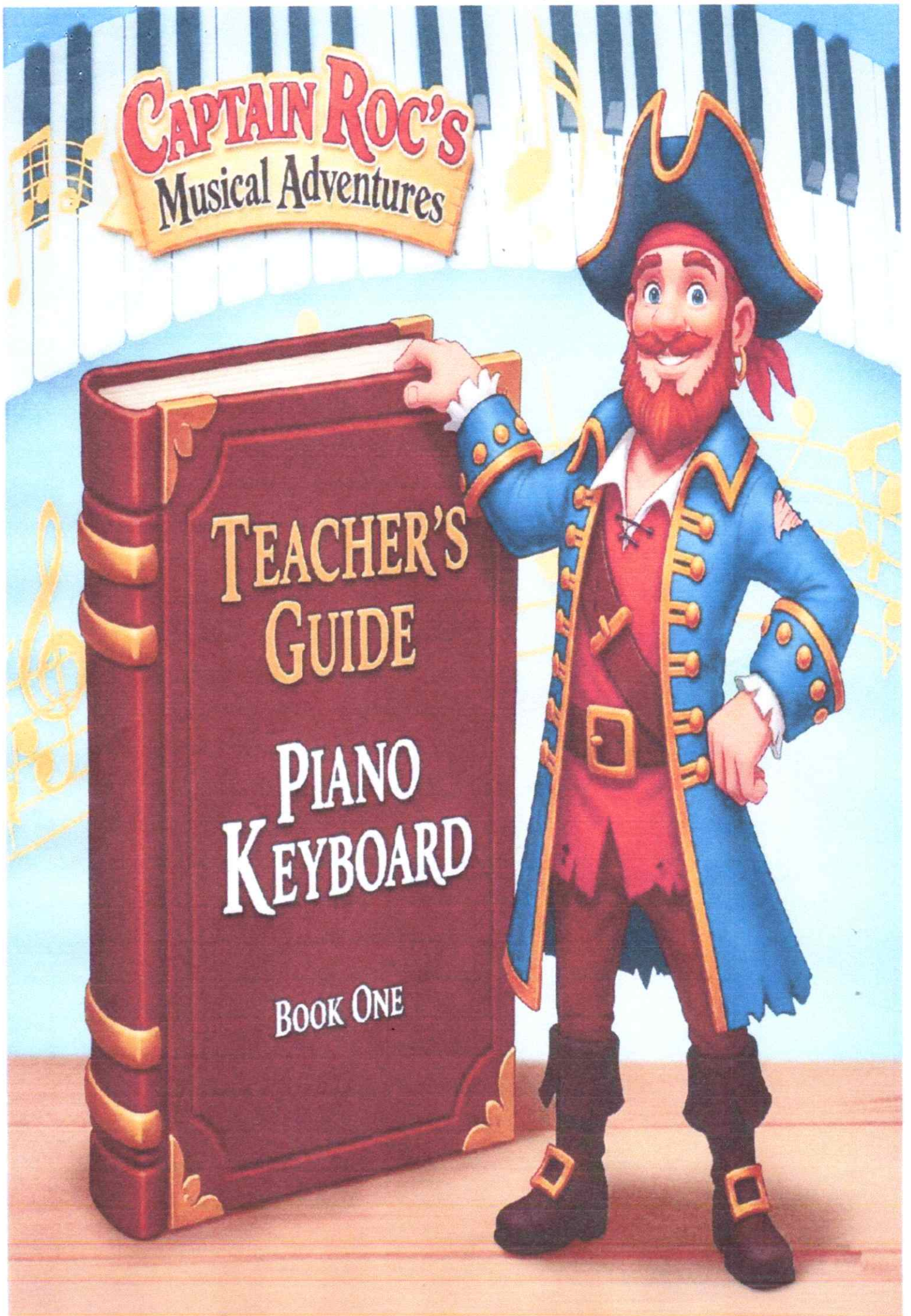
09695209950

CAPTAIN ROC'S Musical Adventures

TEACHER'S
GUIDE

PIANO
KEYBOARD

BOOK ONE



Welcome to Captain Roc's World of Musical Adventures

'Music, for so many is their first love, being both a media for pleasure and entertainment. The ability to learn and play a musical instrument has for centuries been at the center of our society.'

"Captain Roc's" musical adventures primarily revolve around the unique and highly successful approach to piano teaching by Sydney based musician Roc Koren.

A Focus on Contemporary and Jazzy Piano

Unlike many traditional piano teachers who focus on sight reading and classical music, 'Captain Roc specializes in a contemporary approach, with a strong emphasis on jazzy piano and an entertaining approach to both technical work and repertoire. He studied jazz and jazz piano at the NSW Conservatorium in Sydney in the early 1980s, which deeply influenced his teaching philosophy.



Unique and Enjoyable Teaching Methodology

A key aspect of the "Captain Roc musical adventures" is Roc's innovative teaching methodology.

Having recognized years ago that many students; even those who achieved high exam results in classical piano; didn't continue playing or have musical versatility, Roc created methods aimed at helping to make learning piano **fun and engaging as well as provide a thorough education across all aspects of becoming a musician.**

Lessons, learning and practice should be entertaining for both students and teachers at all levels from beginners to advanced.

This course and series of books is a result of these methods that incorporate enjoyable songs and ideas, providing entertainment as well as room for students to begin the creative process of improvising.

The focus is on a "comprehensive and rather uniquely contemporary" approach to musical appreciation and piano/keyboard playing.

ABRSM Jazz Curriculum The Jazz Exam Pathway

While his methods are contemporary, he also prepares students for examinations, particularly through the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) Jazz Curriculum. He found this curriculum to be well-crafted and enjoyable for students, making the exam experience more positive.

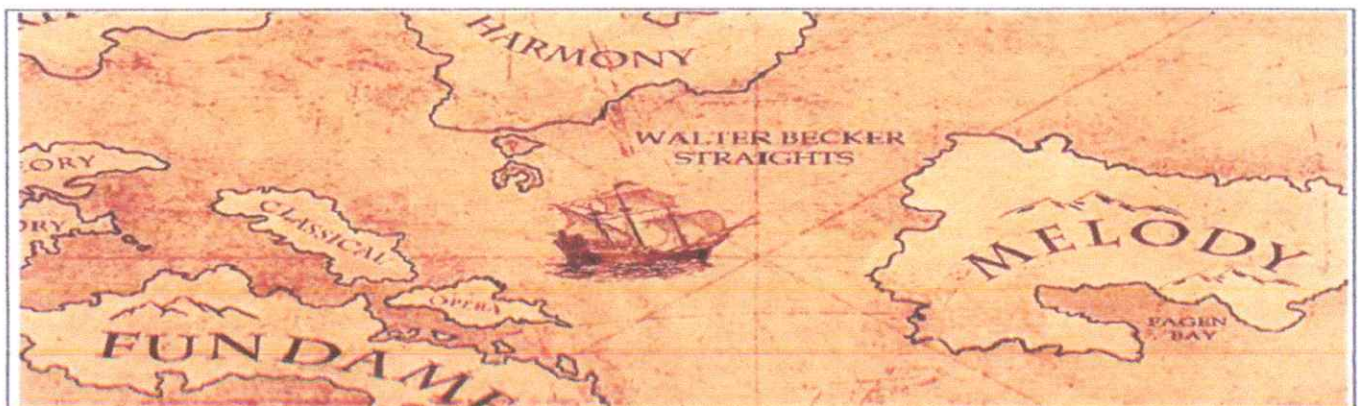
Many of his students have achieved excellent marks and success in jazz piano and jazz ensemble exams.

Inspiring a Love for Music

The core of Captain Roc's musical adventures is inspiring a genuine love for music. His aim is not just to teach students to play songs, but to give them the skills and passion to continue their musical journey throughout their lives.

His commitment to making music enjoyable and accessible has influenced many students, colleagues, and graduates over his decades of teaching.

In essence, Captain Roc's musical adventures are less about personal performances (though he is an accomplished musician) and more about his pioneering approach to music education, particularly in contemporary and jazz piano, which has allowed countless students to embark on their own rewarding musical journeys.





Captain Roc's Musical Adventures Book 1



TEACHER'S GUIDE:

Welcome to **Captain Roc's Musical Adventures!** This guide will help you navigate the exciting world of piano and keyboard playing with your students, making learning music a fun and engaging journey.

Getting Started and the First Five Songs

Materials Needed:

- "Captain Roc's Musical Adventures Book 1"
- Access to a piano or keyboard (digital or acoustic)
- Internet access for YouTube videos

Reference Videos:

- [Link to YouTube Video 1: Introduction to Pianos/Keyboards] - *Teacher to insert specific YouTube links here.*
- [Link to YouTube Video 2: Keyboard Geography & Finding C]
- [Link to YouTube Video 3: Five Finger Position & First Five Notes]



Pages 1 and 2: Different Types of Pianos and Keyboards

- **Discussion:** Begin by discussing the different types of pianos and keyboards your students might encounter.
 - **Acoustic Pianos:** Grand pianos, upright pianos (demonstrate or show pictures, discuss sound production – hammers hitting strings).
 - **Digital Pianos/Keyboards:** Discuss their portability, volume control, headphone jack, and different sound options.
- **Activity:** Ask students if they have a piano or keyboard at home and what kind it is. Discuss the benefits of each.

WWW.JAZZROC.COM



Captain Roc's Musical Adventures



TASKS - Keyboard Geography

Identify the Pattern of Black Keys:

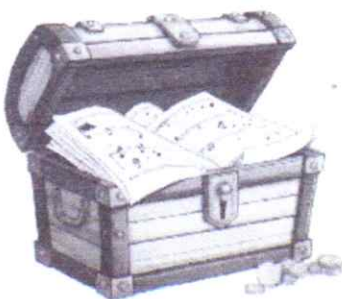
- **Visual Recognition:** Point out the pattern of the black keys – groups of two and groups of three. Emphasize that this pattern repeats across the entire keyboard and is the same on all types of pianos and keyboards.
- **Activity:** Have students find all the groups of two black keys and all the groups of three black keys.

Find All the Notes C and Give Them Names:

- **Location of C:** Explain that C is always found to the left of the group of two black keys.
- **Creative Naming Activity:** Engage students in a fun activity to name each C note, reinforcing its location and helping them distinguish between them.
 - **Lower Notes:** "Elephant C" (lowest C), "Hippopotamus C" (next C up).
 - **Middle C:** This is a crucial landmark. Emphasize its central location on the keyboard (often directly in front of the player). (Middle C).
 - **High Notes:** "Monkey C", "Flamingo C" (next C up from Middle C), "Butterfly C" (highest C).
- **Practice:** Have students point to and say the name of each C they find on the keyboard.

Identify Middle C:

- **Significance:** Explain that Middle C is a very important starting point in learning to play. It's often the first note many pieces start with.
- **Reinforcement:** Have students consistently identify Middle C.



Captain Roc's Musical Adventures



Find the First Five Notes, Use the Correct Fingers, and Start to Identify Notes on the Music:

- **Five-Finger Position:** Guide students to place their right hand in the five-finger position, with their thumb (finger 1) on Middle C, index finger (finger 2) on D, middle finger (finger 3) on E, ring finger (finger 4) on F, and pinky finger (finger 5) on G.
- **Note Recognition:** Introduce the names of these five notes (C, D, E, F, G) and show how they correspond to their positions on the musical staff.
- **Finger Numbers:** Emphasize the importance of using the correct finger numbers as indicated in the book.

Work Through the First Five Songs:

- **Note Identification:** For each of the first five songs, have students identify the five different notes (C, D, E, F, G) on the musical staff before playing.
- **Note Lengths and Rhythms:** Introduce basic note lengths (whole notes, half notes, quarter notes) and rhythms. Use clapping or tapping to demonstrate the duration of each note.

Song 3. Five Finger Fun

Identifying Bars and the Rhythm of the Song:

- **Bars:** Explain what a bar (or measure) is in music – a way to organize the notes into smaller, easier-to-read sections. Point out the bar lines in the music.
- **Rhythm:** Continue to reinforce the concept of rhythm by clapping or counting the BEATS IN EACH BAR, pointing out the top number at the start of the music tells us how many beats are in each bar.



WWW.JAZZROC.COM

CAPTAIN ROC'S MUSICAL ADVENTURES



Captain Roc's Musical Adventures



Mary Had a Little Frog:

- **Sung to the Tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb":** This is a fantastic opportunity for creative engagement.
- **Activity:** Encourage students to make up new words about different animals, using the provided example: "Mary had a polar bear, polar bear, polar bear. Mary had a polar bear, she kept it in the fridge!" This activity helps with rhythm and musicality without the pressure of reading complex notes.

Playing by Ear.

Even at these beginner levels playing by ear and from memory should be encouraged. Although we are referencing how music is written, all students will more naturally relate to how the music sounds and are going to play by sound and memory long before becoming good readers of music. (In exactly the same way that we learn to speak and communicate before we learn to read and write.)

Play the songs to the students and they will learn how to play via imitation both visually and using listening and memory skills.

It is important to still reference back to the notation regularly, as this will slowly develop reading skills, but playing smoothly and with rhythm without 'watching' the music is also an important part of musical awareness and development.

Off to the Zoo:

- **Sixth Song to Add to the Repertoire:** This song provides an opportunity to solidify the previously learned five notes and introduce new musical ideas if applicable within the song.

Froot Loops:

- **Three Beats to the Bar:** This is a significant introduction to a new time signature.
- **Discussion:** Explain that some songs have three beats per bar instead of four, creating a different "feel" or "sense of rhythm." Count "1-2-3, 1-2-3" with the students. Have them feel the difference between 4/4 and 3/4 time.



Captain Roc's Musical Adventures



Song of Joy Activity:

- **Discuss Beethoven:** Introduce Ludwig van Beethoven as a famous classical composer. Talk briefly about his importance in music history and how his "Ode to Joy" melody (which "Song of Joy" is based on) is one of the most recognizable tunes in the world.
- **Listening Activity:** Play a short excerpt of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" for the students.

C Scale

Introduce Three New Notes and All the Notes of the C Scale:

- **New Notes:** Introduce A, B, and the higher C.
- **C Scale:** Explain that a scale is a series of notes played in order, going up or down. The C scale uses all the white keys from one C to the next C.
- **Visualizing Pitch:** Explain how as the notes get higher on the keyboard, the notes also go higher on the music lines (and vice-versa).
- **Octave:** Explain that the distance from one C to the next C (eight notes) is called an **Octave**. Use the analogy: "just like an Octopus has 8 legs."

Practice Tucking the Thumb Under:

- **Keyboard Technique:** This is a crucial technique for playing scales smoothly.
- **Demonstration:** Demonstrate how to tuck the thumb (finger 1) under the middle finger (finger 3) after playing the first three notes of the C scale (C-D-E).
- **Practice:** Have students practice this motion slowly and carefully, ensuring the remaining five notes are played with fingers 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Level 2 Songs

Using New Notes A, B, C:

- **Expansion:** Explain that Level 2 songs will start to use the newly introduced notes A, B, and the higher C.
- **Singing the Songs:** Emphasize the importance of singing the songs. This helps students internalize the melody and develop their musical ear.
- **Beyond Five Notes:** Reiterate that these songs now utilize more than just the initial five notes from Level 1, expanding their musical vocabulary.

WWW.JAZZROC.COM



Captain Roc's Musical Adventures



Important Note Regarding Finger Numbers:

- **Crucial Clarification:** Stress that the numbers underneath notes **only** indicate which finger to use, **NOT** what note it is. This is a common point of confusion for beginners.

Row, Row Your Boat:

- **Triplets:** Introduce the concept of a "triplet" – three notes played very quickly within the time of two (or one, depending on the context of the meter).
- **Identifying Triplets:** Explain that the number "3" under the notes indicates a triplet, **NOT** that finger 3 should be used for all notes in the triplet.
- **High C Finger:** Specifically point out that the high C in this song should be played with finger 5 (pinky).

Baby Sharp:

- **Complex Rhythm, Easy to Play:** Acknowledge that the song "looks complex on the music" due to its rhythm, but reassure students that it's "very easy to play" because it's a popular song and they can rely on their ear.
- **Clapping Activity:** The primary activity for this song is to clap out the rhythm. This helps students internalize the complex rhythm without the pressure of reading every note precisely at first.
- **Keyboard Activities (if access is available):**
 - Playing the song on the keyboard.
 - **Finding F# (F Sharp):** Explain what a sharp (#) is – it tells you to play the note just to the right (higher) of the indicated note. Have students find all the F# black keys across the whole keyboard.
 - **Creative Playing (Finding Ds):** Encourage students to find all the D notes on the keyboard and experiment with playing "Baby Sharp" in different octaves (high and low).

WWW.JAZZROC.COM



Captain Roc's Musical Adventures



Happy Birthday:

- **Keyboard Geography Activity:** Have students find all the Bb (B flat) notes on the keyboard.
 - **What is a Flat (b)?** Explain that a flat (b) tells you to play the note just to the left (lower) of the indicated note.

Level 3

Discuss Melody and Harmony:

- **Melody:** Define melody as the main tune of the song – what you hum or sing.
- **Harmony:** Explain that harmony is when other notes are played *with* the melody to create a richer sound.
- **Left Hand Chords:** Introduce the idea that the left hand often plays chords, which provide the harmony for the right hand's melody.
- **Simple Chord Demonstration:** If appropriate, demonstrate a simple two or three-note chord with the left hand while playing a simple melody with the right.

Ode to Joy:

- **Further Discussion of Beethoven and Classical Music:** Revisit Beethoven and expand the discussion to classical music as a genre. Discuss its characteristics and importance.
- **The Orchestra:** Introduce the concept of an orchestra – a large group of musicians playing different instruments together.
- **Instruments and Roles:** Briefly discuss how different instruments in an orchestra contribute to both the MELODY and HARMONY, illustrating how all the parts work together to create a complete musical piece. You could show a short video of an orchestra playing if time permits.



Captain Roc's Musical Adventures



Introducing Filipino Melodies on the Piano Keyboard

Two familiar Filipino melodies: the folk song "Bahay Kubo" and the opening of the Philippine National Anthem the goal is to familiarize students with basic keyboard navigation and simple melodic patterns.

"Bahay Kubo" is an excellent starting point due to its repetitive and easily recognizable melody. Focus on the first few notes to introduce basic finger placement and note recognition.

- **Listen First:** Play the full melody of "Bahay Kubo" for the student to hear. Ask them to hum along if they know it.
- **Simple Pattern Practice:**
 - **Phrase 1 (Example):** G - E - G - G - G - F - E - D
 - *Finger Placement:* Encourage using fingers 2, 3, or 4 for G, depending on comfort, and guiding them to use appropriate fingers for the descending notes.
 - *Rhythm:* Keep it simple. Emphasize playing each note steadily. "Let's play one note for each beat."
- **Sing Along:** Encourage the student to sing the lyrics while playing the notes. This helps with memory and musicality.

Philippine National Anthem ("Lupang Hinirang")

- **Note Recognition:** Continued practice in identifying specific notes.
- **Importance of Slow Practice:** Emphasize accuracy over speed.
- **Listen Carefully:** Play the first two bars of the National Anthem. "Listen to how the song begins."
- **Identify Starting Note:** The anthem traditionally starts on G (the G above Middle C, same as "Bahay Kubo" in our simple arrangement).
- **Connect the Bars:** Practice playing the two bars together, slowly.
- **Listen for the Melody:** "Does it sound like the beginning of our National Anthem?"
- **Patience is Key:** Learning an instrument takes time. Celebrate small achievements.
- **Fun First:** Keep the lesson light and enjoyable.
- **Repetition with Variation:** Repeat sections, but sometimes change the context ("let's play it louder," "now softer").
- **Encourage Singing:** Singing helps connect the notes on the keyboard to the melody in their mind.



Captain Roc's Musical Adventures

Captain Roc's



This comprehensive guide should equip you to lead engaging and effective lessons using "Captain Roc's Musical Adventures Book 1." Remember to adapt activities to your students' pace and interests, fostering a love for music along the way!

The last two songs from the Philippines are included as the children could sing the songs plus have a visual understanding of what the notes and music looks like of both 'Nipa Hut' and the first part the National anthem

As teachers and students progress through Captain Roc's Musical Adventures and into the next books we can revisit these songs plus many others ; add more music and some chords and explore many more musical concepts



Time to Practice

TIME TO PRACTICE



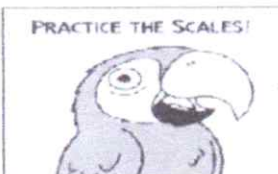
Find your Practice Space. Choose a good time each day when you can sit down at your piano keyboard without distractions



Warm Up Your Wings
Just like I flap my wings before a long flight, warm up your fingers! Try some simple scales or exercises to get them ready for action.



Have Fun Matey!
Remember, learning piano is an adventure. Celebrate your progress, and enjoy the great music you're creating.



Listen and Learn
Don't just play notes. Listen to the sound you're making. Is it clear? Is it smooth? Are you playing at the right speed?



Repeat Repeat Repeat!
This is my favorite. If you want to make something stick in your memory repeat it many times. It's how I learn new words, and it's how you'll master your piano pieces!



Squawk! But what happens if you Don't Practice?

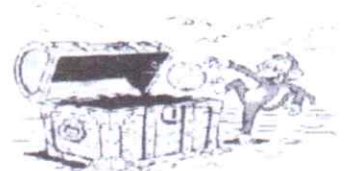


Ooh, I don't even like to think about it, squawk!

If you don't practice, your basic skills will feel wobbly, you might find yourself struggling with things, that should be easy. It's like trying to sail a ship without a rudder!



Forgetfulness, Ahoy! You might forget the songs you've already learnt, and all the hard work will start to fade away. It's like your musical treasure chest suddenly becomes empty!



No New Adventures. Without practice, you won't be able to learn new and exciting pieces, and your musical journey will slow down. You'll miss out on so many amazing musical discoveries!



Frustration Island. When you don't practice, new songs will seem much harder, and you might feel frustrated or discouraged. We do not want any sad sailors on this ship.



Remember my helping words Practice is your trusty compass guiding you through the musical sea. With regular practice, you'll be playing beautiful tunes and embarking on endless musical adventures with Captain Roc. Now let's get those fingers moving. Squawk!

Captain Roc's Musical Adventures

Set sail on a musical journey for beginners



Music Piano Lessons & Colouring Book 1

© JAZZROC2025 World rights material resources and related links