FREE SAMPLE · CASE 1

Piano Note Detective

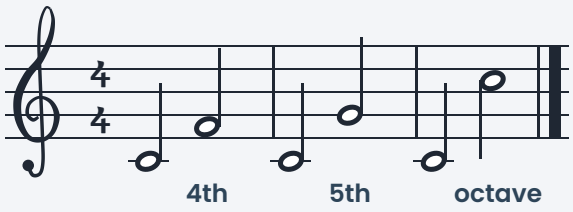
Fourths, Fifths & Octaves

Bigger leaps: count the letters at both ends. C up to F is a 4th, C up to G a 5th, C up to the next C an octave. Read them on both staves, play them, and learn why half steps tell a different story.



IN THIS FREE SAMPLE

- Case 1: fourths
- Name the interval of each pair
- Find the note a 4th up
- Answers with reasons



1 **Name both notes**

2 **Count the letters**

3 **Name the interval**

4 **Play and listen**

Digital download · Print at 100% on US Letter · For students who read 2nds and 3rds on the staff · Five sittings of about 15 minutes · With a piano or keyboard

How the case file works

Five cases, about 15 minutes each.

For a student who reads 2nds and 3rds on the staff. An interval is named by counting letters, starting with the first note as 1: C, D, E, F is a 4th. A 5th counts five letters, and an octave (an 8th) reaches the same letter again. On the staff a 4th goes line to space or space to line, a 5th line to line or space to space, and an octave line to space.

EACH CASE

The story	Read it aloud together. It says what the detective is looking for.
Learn	The rule for this case, with a picture. Point at it while you read it.
Tasks	Short tasks that use the rule. Each one has a single right answer (except play tasks).
Clue	The last task gives a clue for the final question.

YOU NEED

- A pencil
- A piano or keyboard
- The interval cards at the back (cut out)

GOOD TO KNOW

- Always count the first note as 1.
- Intervals are named by letters. Half steps can differ: C to F is 5 half steps, F to B is 6, and both are 4ths.
- Play every pair and listen: the octave sounds like the same note, higher.

NOT A METHOD BOOK

Note-reading practice for students, not piano lessons. Interval numbers only; qualities (perfect, augmented) come in a later book.

Case 1: Count the Letters

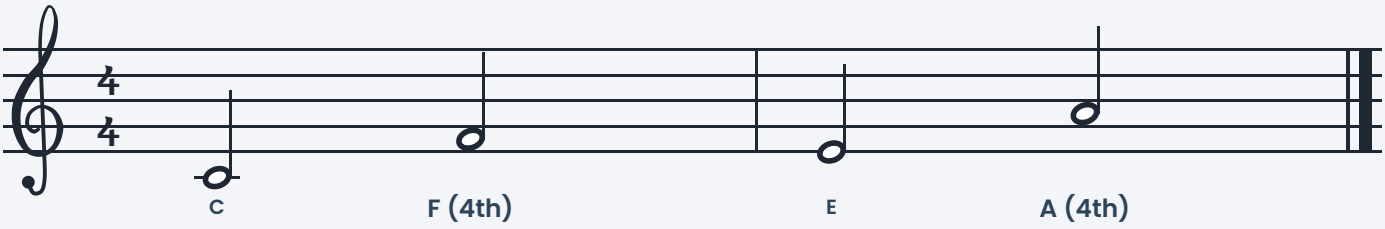
A 4th: four letters, counting both ends

THE STORY

A frog in the music-school garden jumps from lily pad to lily pad, each jump bigger than the last. Name its jumps to find out the word in the frog's diary.

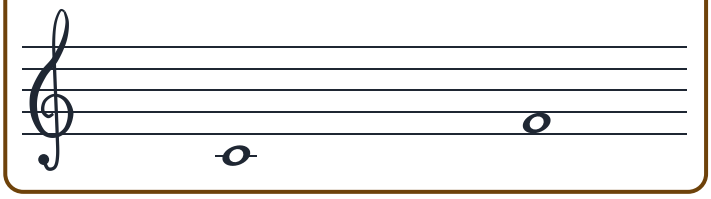
LEARN

- Count letters from the first note, including it: C, D, E, F. Four letters make a 4th.
- On the staff a 4th goes from a line to a space (or a space to a line) with two notes between.
- Up or down, it is still a 4th: F down to C is a 4th too.



1 Name the interval of each pair: 3rd, 4th or 5th?

PAIR 1



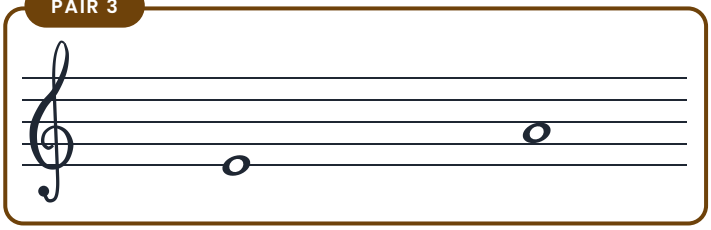
3rd 4th 5th

PAIR 2



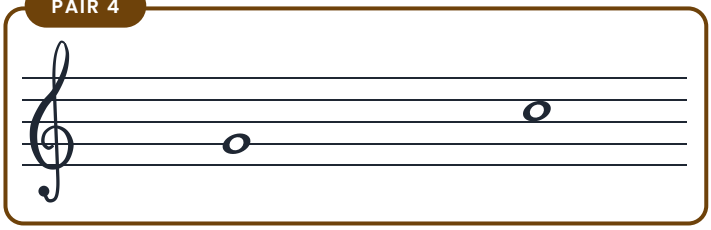
3rd 4th 5th

PAIR 3



3rd 4th 5th

PAIR 4

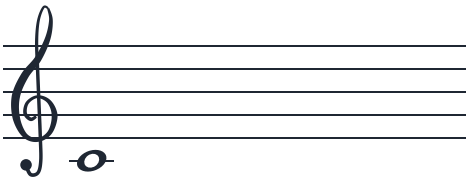


3rd 4th 5th

Case 1: Count the Letters (continued)

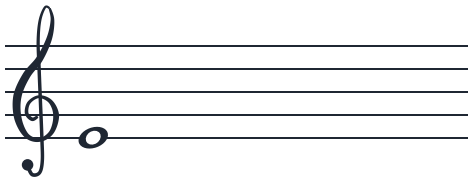
2 Which letter is a 4th up from each note? Count four letters.

1. a 4th up



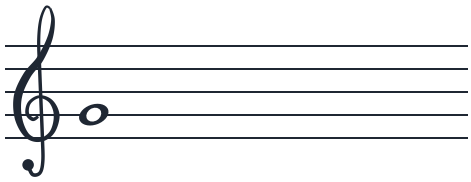
Letter: ☐

2. a 4th up



Letter: ☐

3. a 4th up



Letter: ☐

3 Choose the best answer.

1. Count up from D: D, E, F, G. What interval is D up to G?

   (L) a 4th
   (K) a 3rd
   (N) a 5th

CLUE 1

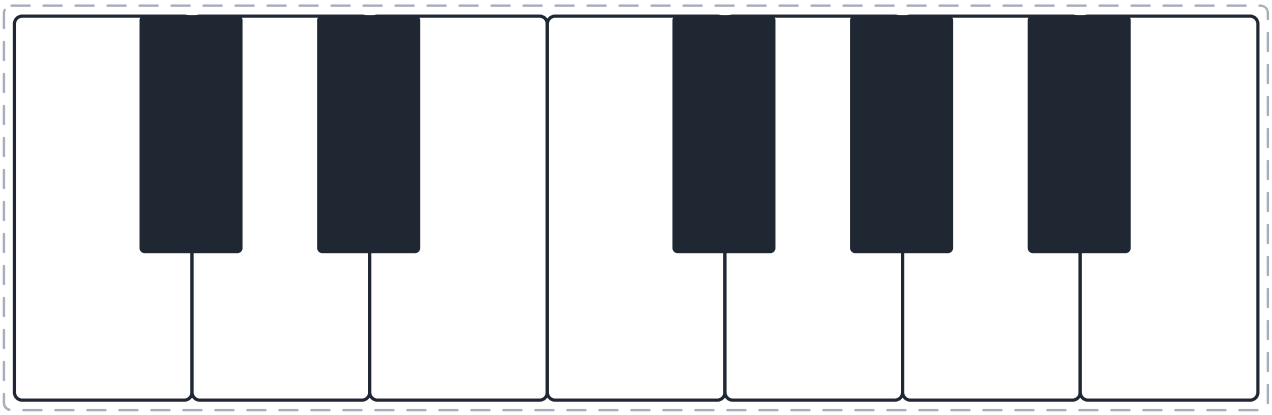
The first letter of the frog's word is the letter of your answer to task 3.

Clue: ☐ **In the full case file, the clues from every case solve the final question.**

Paper keyboard

Cut out the rows and tape them in order, low to high. White keys are about as wide as a real piano's.

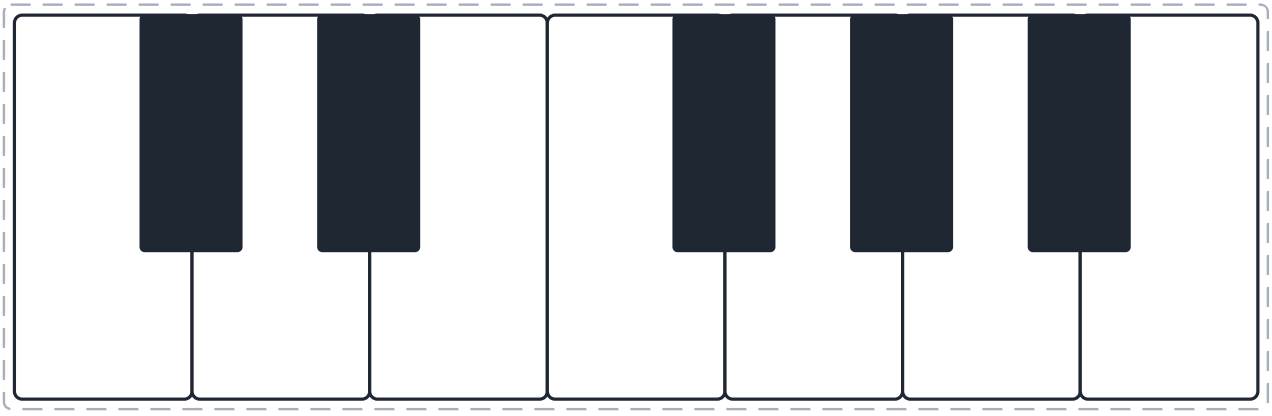
Low



Middle



High



Only Middle C is labeled: finding the other keys is the detective's job. Tape the rows edge to edge (low on the left) to make one long keyboard.

Case 1 answers

Every answer comes with its reason. Read the reasons aloud: they teach.

CASE 1 · COUNT THE LETTERS

Task 1	1 4th · 2 3rd · 3 4th · 4 4th
PND37-C1-T1	C4 to F4: C D E F, 4 letters counting both notes: a 4th. D4 to F4: D E F, 3 letters counting both notes: a 3rd. E4 to A4: E F G A, 4 letters counting both notes: a 4th. G4 to C5: G A B C, 4 letters counting both notes: a 4th.
Task 2	1 F (F4) · 2 A (A4) · 3 C (C5)
PND37-C1-T2	C up a 4th: count 4 letters including both ends: C D E F. E up a 4th: count 4 letters including both ends: E F G A. G up a 4th: count 4 letters including both ends: G A B C.
Task 3	1 L: a 4th
PND37-C1-T3	Four letters, counting D as 1: a 4th.
Clue 1	L (the answer to item 1 of task 3)

THE FULL CASE FILE

The full Fourths, Fifths & Octaves has four more cases: fifths, octaves, bass-clef leaps and letters versus half steps, with 20 interval cards, a notebook, the final question, hints and a certificate.