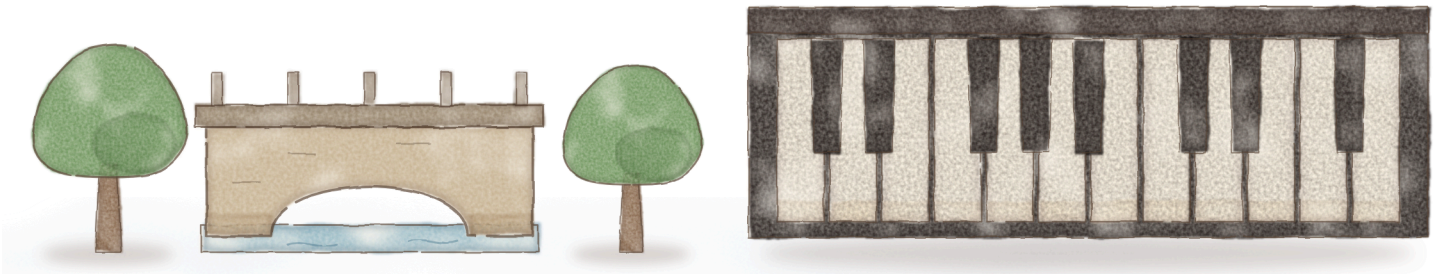
FREE SAMPLE · CASE 1

Piano Note Detective

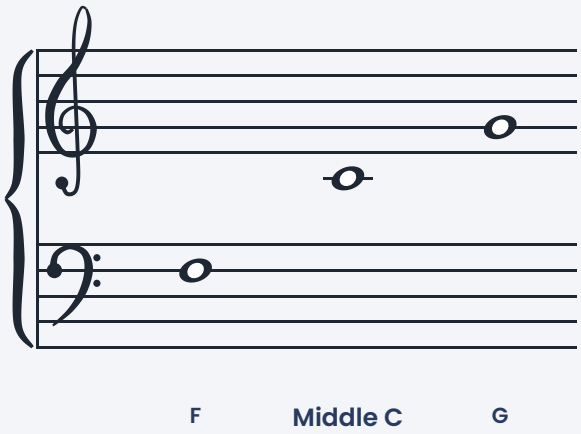
Grand Staff Bridge Mysteries

Two staffs, one map: the bass staff below, the treble staff on top, and Middle C as the bridge between them. Read across both, step over the bridge, and name the parts written together.



IN THIS FREE SAMPLE

- Case 1: the grand staff map
- Name notes on both staffs
- True or false: what the map says
- Paper keyboard and answers



1. **Check the clef**
2. **Find a landmark**
3. **Step to the note**
4. **Find the key**

Digital download · Print at 100% on US Letter · For beginners who read some notes on each staff and are ready to read both · Four sittings of about 15 minutes · With a grown-up

How the case file works

Four cases, about 15 minutes each.

For a beginner who reads some notes on the treble staff and some on the bass staff, and is ready to read the grand staff as one map. The bass staff holds the low notes and the treble staff the high ones, with Middle C between them. On each staff, higher on the page is higher on the piano; near Middle C the two staffs share notes, so check the clef.

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 if you have one, or the paper keyboard near the end
- Four short sittings, one case each

GOOD TO KNOW

- Check the clef before naming any note: the same line means a different note on the other staff.
- The top staff often holds the right-hand part and the bottom staff the left-hand part. That is a habit, not a rule: a clef tells which notes, not which hand.
- Notes near Middle C can be written on either staff; the key is the same.

NOT A METHOD BOOK

Note-reading practice for beginners, not piano lessons. Note reading and keyboard practice only: no sharps, flats or key signatures.

Case 1: The Grand Staff Map

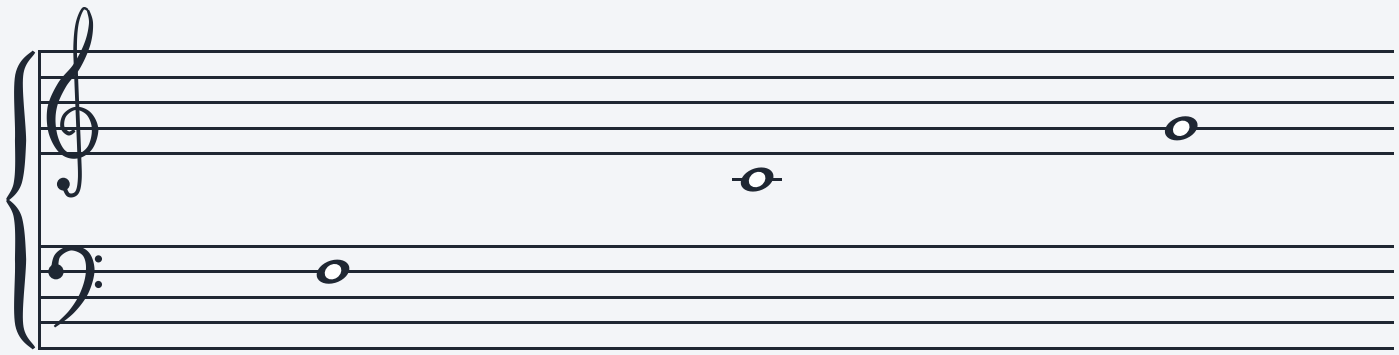
Two staffs, one map: treble on top, bass below, Middle C between

THE STORY

Riverside has two bands: the Treble Band on the north bank and the Bass Band on the south bank. Every summer they play one song together on the bridge. This year the shared music has gone missing, and all that is left is a trail of notes.

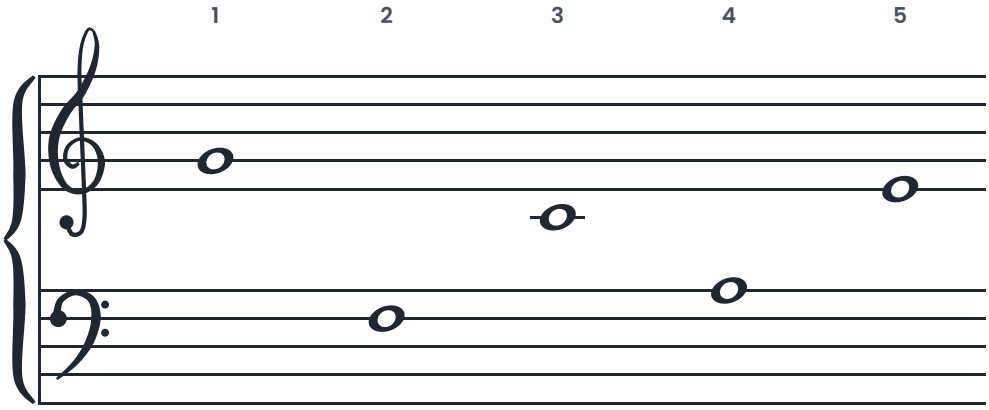
LEARN

- A grand staff is two staffs joined by a brace: the treble staff on top, the bass staff below.
- Middle C sits between them on its own short line: just below the treble staff, or just above the bass staff.
- On each staff, higher on the page is higher on the piano. Between the staffs, check the clef: near Middle C a note below the treble staff can be lower than a note above the bass staff.

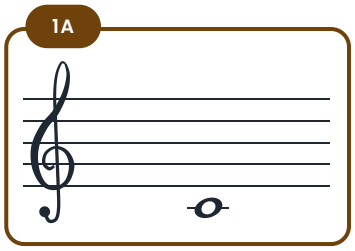


Case 1: The Grand Staff Map (continued)

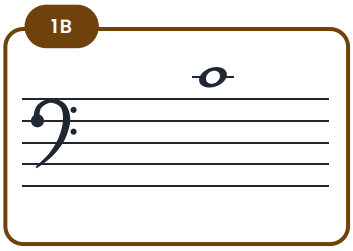
1 Write the letter of each note. Check its clef first.

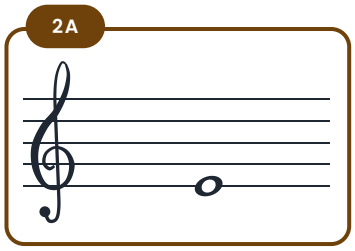


2 Each pair shows two notes. Same key, or different keys?

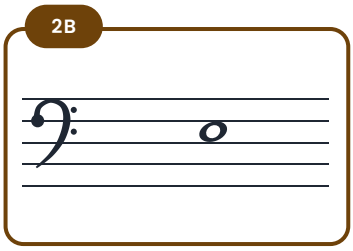


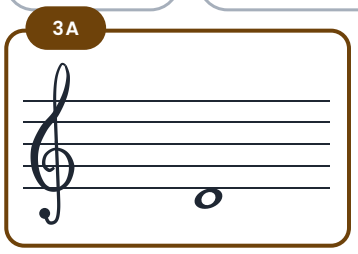
same key different keys



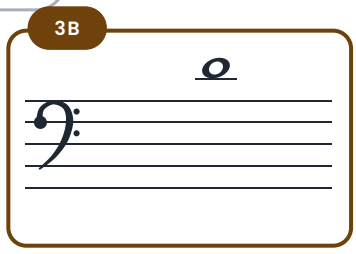


same key different keys





same key different keys



Case 1: The Grand Staff Map (continued)

3 True or false? Circle one for each sentence.

1. Middle C can be written below the treble staff or above the bass staff. true false
2. On the treble staff, a note higher on the page is a higher key on the piano. true false
3. The bottom line of the treble staff and the bottom line of the bass staff are the same note. true false

CLUE 1

The first letter of the hiding place is the letter of note 3 in task 1.

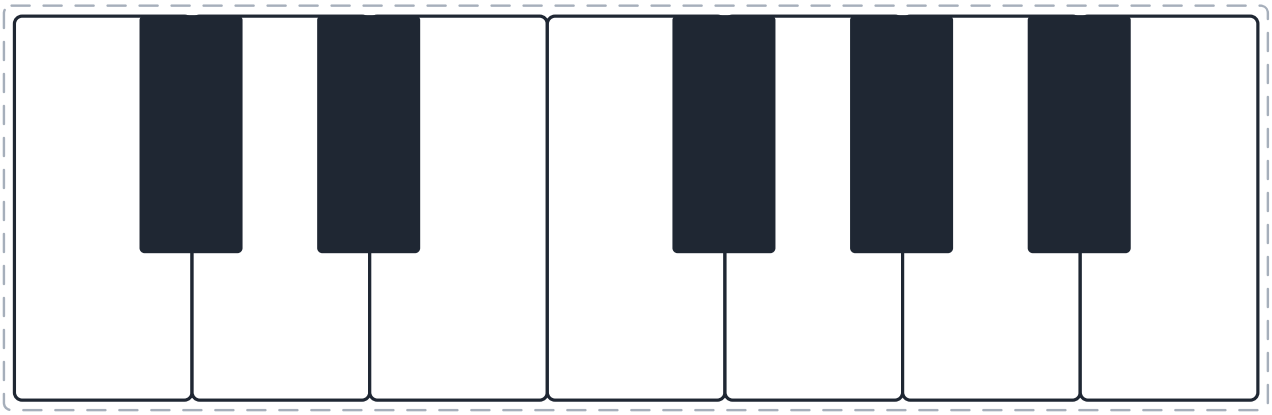
Clue: _____

In the full case file, four clues like this one 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.

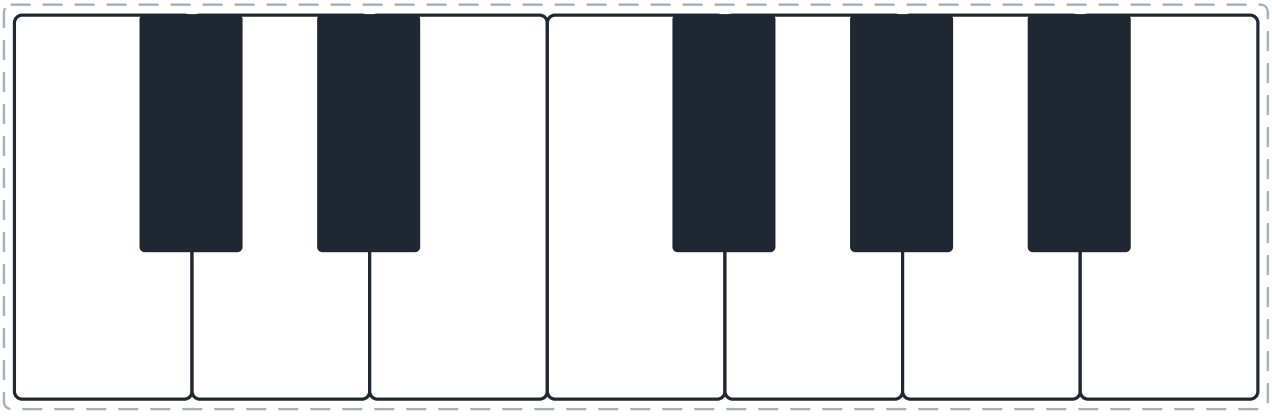
Low



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 · THE GRAND STAFF MAP

Task 1
1 G · 2 F · 3 C · 4 A · 5 E

PND09-C1-T1
treble 2nd line is G4. bass 4th line is F3. treble 1st ledger line below is C4. bass 5th line is A3. treble 1st line is E4.

Task 2
1 same key · 2 different keys · 3 same key

PND09-C1-T2
C4 (treble 1st ledger line below) and C4 (bass 1st ledger line above): one key written two ways. E4 (treble 1st line) and E3 (bass 3rd space): the same letter, but a different octave. D4 (treble space below the staff) and D4 (bass space above a ledger line): one key written two ways.

Task 3
1 true · 2 true · 3 false

PND09-C1-T3
It is the same key either way. On one staff, up the page is up the keys. Between the two staffs, check the clefs near Middle C. The treble bottom line is E; the bass bottom line is G. Check the clef first.

Clue 1
C (the answer to item 3 of task 1)

THE FULL CASE FILE

The full Grand Staff Bridge Mysteries has three more cases: stepping across the bridge, top and bottom parts written together, and the keys, with a notebook, the final question, hints and a certificate.