

## eNovation B: The Musical Alphabet

**NOTE:** All video and audio files are found in the media area on each lesson page.

### eNovation B Overview

Summary	
Goals	<b>Summary:</b> In this eNovation, students will learn about the musical alphabet and will play in five-finger position on the white keys of the piano. AlphaNotes (names of the notes inside noteheads) are used for all reading activities. Time signatures are introduced along with metrical counting. Legato and staccato touches are utilized.
Key Elements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keyboard Topography – The White Keys on the Piano</li> <li>• The Musical Alphabet</li> <li>• Hand Shape and Five-Finger Position</li> <li>• Metrical Counting</li> <li>• Time Signatures: 4/4</li> <li>• Touches: Legato and Staccato</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><a href="#"><u>Go to eNovation B Topic Page</u></a></p>	

### Topic 1: The Musical Alphabet / Naming the White Keys

Lesson Overview			
In this lesson, students learn about the white keys and should understand the relationship of the musical alphabet, forwards and backwards, to pitch and direction.			
Activity Type / Title with Links			Instructions/Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Video Playlist	<b>Watch instructional video:</b> <a href="#"><u>The Musical Alphabet</u></a>	Watch instructional video.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Keyboard Awareness	<a href="#"><u>Keyboard Topography Drill: Finding the White Keys</u></a>	This drill will help you learn the names and location of the white keys on the piano. Use your sense of touch to find different keys on the piano by referencing the two and three black-key groups. The notes drilled are grouped into "CDE" or "FGAB." Remember not to look at your hands while playing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Keyboard Awareness	<a href="#"><u>Keyboard ID: Naming the Keys of the Piano (1) (MT.NET)</u></a>	Complete the MT.NET drill.

### Topic 2: Rhythm: 4/4 Time / Metrical Counting

Lesson Overview	
The concepts of meter and time signature are introduced, and students learn to count metrically in 4/4 time.	
Activity Type / Title with Links	Instructions/Comments



<input type="checkbox"/>	Theory	<a href="#">Meter and Time Signatures</a>	Watch instructional video.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhythm	<a href="#">Rhythm Drill B: Time Signatures - 4/4 Time</a>	<b>Watch instructional video:</b> <i>Metrical Counting: 4/4 Time</i> . Count carefully while playing these drills. When you are ready, practice them with either the practice or performance play-along audio track.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensemble	<a href="#">Temple Dance by Chan Kiat Lim (Rhythm Ensemble)</a>	Students can practice their counting skills with this rhythm only ensemble.

### Topic 3: Five-Finger Position / Finger Number Awareness

Lesson Overview			
In this lesson, students learn about five-finger position and are encouraged to keep their fingers on consecutive white keys in a relaxed manner.			
Activity Type / Title with Links			Instructions/Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Video Playlist	<b>Watch instructional video:</b> <a href="#">Hand Shape at the Piano</a>	Watch instructional video.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technique	<a href="#">Five-Finger Position</a>	<b>Watch the video</b> <i>Five-Finger Position on the White Keys</i> . Then, practice the drill using the C major and the A minor positions.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Listening	<a href="#">Aural ID: Up, Down, or Repeat? (MT.NET)</a>	Complete the MT.NET AURAL drill.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Listening	<a href="#">Aural Playback: Matching Pitch and Rhythm in 5-Finger Position (Up, Down, Repeat)</a>	There are four audio files in each of two positions, C and A. In these examples you will be asked to determine the direction of the melody – Does it go up, down, or is the note repeated? Practice with the audio file until you can accurately play the example. Tip: It really helps if you can accurately sing what you hear before attempting to play.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Keyboard Awareness	<a href="#">Keyboard Orientation Drill</a>	The Keyboard Orientation Drill is a challenging activity combining hand and finger number drill with note and interval identification on the keyboard.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Improvisation	<a href="#">Creating Melodies on the White Keys - In a Melancholy Mood</a>	Create a melody using two different five-finger positions. Follow the instructions on the page to improvise your own melody. Counting is especially important in this activity. You will need to use the play-along audio track when improvising.



#### Topic 4: Reading and Playing in Five-Finger Positions / Legato and Staccato Touches

Lesson Overview			
Students are introduced to unstaffed directional reading of AlphaNotes in five-finger position. Legato and staccato articulations are taught and are included in Reading B. Students learn the appropriate symbols for these articulations and perform accordingly. The repertoire, <i>Sneaky Pie</i> , features the staccato touch.			
Activity Type / Title with Links			Instructions/Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technique	<a href="#">Articulation Drill - Legato and Staccato</a>	<p><b>Watch the video:</b> <i>Articulations: Legato and Staccato</i></p> <p>The drills on this page will help you develop technique in playing legato (connected) and staccato (detached) articulations. There are three different drills and you should master all three of them: "Playing Legato," "Playing Staccato," and "Alternating Hands Playing Legato and Staccato." Watch the videos in the media area before beginning to practice. Play with continuity as you move from one hand to the next. Remember: "up" stems are for the right hand and "down" stems are for the left hand.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reading	<a href="#">Reading B: White Keys (HS)</a>	Practice these reading drills in five-finger positions. Take care to use the required hand and fingerings and be aware of dynamics and articulations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repertoire	<a href="#">Name That Tune!</a>	Students learn two familiar folk tunes (one for the L.H. and one for the R.H.) and try to identify them!
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repertoire	<a href="#">Easy Does It by Chan Kiat Lim (student/teacher duet)</a>	This piece uses only the legato touch and is played with two hands. Watch the performance video (mini) to assist you with correct technique.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repertoire	<a href="#">Little Song by Chan Kiat Lim (student/teacher duet)</a>	This piece is for the right hand and uses only the legato touch. Watch the performance video (mini) to assist you with correct technique.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repertoire	<a href="#">Sneaky Pie by Susanna Garcia</a>	This piece is for the right hand and uses both legato and staccato touches. Watch the performance video (mini) to assist you with correct technique.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensemble	<a href="#">The Happy Warrior by Susanna Garcia</a>	Multiple Keyboard Ensemble (4 Players) using five-finger positions.

