

**Let's Play**

**TICK TOCK**

**Anybody Can Play Piano  
Manual for teaching Tick Tock  
in a studio, preschool or home  
setting using the  
Anybody Can Play Piano app  
for the patient practice tutor**

[www.anybodycanplay.com](http://www.anybodycanplay.com)

## TICK TOCK

The following “lesson/activities” may take a couple (or several) class times depending on the ages of the children, their focus capabilities, etc. Just go as far as the children are able during a class time and stop. Some activities may have to be done many many times. Just take a step at a time with them. Some children have not had any type of conscious learning experiences - You may be the first. They may not even know those finger color names. Others have already learned their letters, numbers, colors, etc. Some even have difficulty pretending they are a clock. You may have to talk them through it - put your hands this way - good! - now move them like this - good! - etc. Others actually go back and forth with their feet and hands! (really cute!) I had a class where I wanted the kids to clap a rhythm. They applauded. It took me the whole class time to talk them through one clap for one beat! They were thrilled that they could clap a beat! I have to say I panicked for awhile, not knowing what to do! Don't panic - just back up a step. You give these young children confidence when they know they just accomplished something new - even if it is clapping one time!

If you have done the marketing activity with the children pretending they are clocks, then just review using the activity sheets and begin with the the finger coloring activity or wherever you stopped. If no previous activities have been done with the children, then begin with being a tick tock clock activity. The following suggestions will assume there has been no previous activity with the children.

Ultimately you will be able to have 4 in a class, but I would begin with only 2 or 3 if you have not taught shared lessons before....especially with very young students. My suggested activities go back and forth between what is actually said to the children and my explanations of the activity sheets, etc. I think it will be quite obvious....

What do clocks say?

Most clocks are quiet, but some of them make a teeny little noise - especially those that hang on the wall.

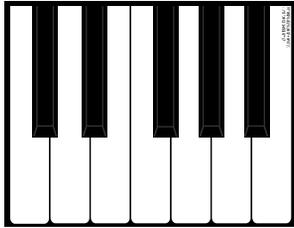
We say “Tick Tock” when we talk about that sound.

Let's pretend we are clocks.

Do you want to be big clocks or little clocks?

Big clocks: Stand up, hands together over head, sway back and forth as saying Tick Tock Tick Tock....Add words and have children sing words with you as you sway. Tick Tock Tick Tock I Am A Clock

Little Clocks: Sitting down, just sway pointer finger back and forth - say words, then sing words



ACTIVITY SHEET: GIANT KEYS

ACP.ps.giant keys.pdf (in ACP.preschool folders)

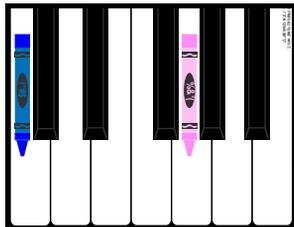
What are these?

Yes, they are a drawing of piano keys.

What color are these?

What color are these?

So, we have black keys and white keys.



ACTIVITY SHEET: GIANT KEYS WITH PINK AND BLUE CRAYONS

Here is another giant drawing of piano keys.

Is it exactly like the other one?

No??? Oh, it has a couple crayons on it! A pink one and a blue one.

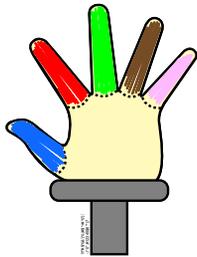
There must be some reason for those crayons. (sheet down)

When we play the piano we use all our fingers, not just one finger.

(Demonstrate by holding up hand and wiggling fingers, then “playing” on the table or your arm if you are standing.)

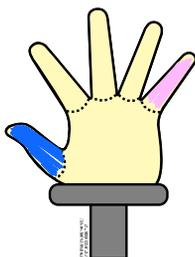
Can you tap one finger at a time - any finger you like, but keep changing fingers.

Wow! You are going to be great piano players!



ACTIVITY SHEET: HAND ALL FINGERS COLOR CODED

Here is a hand with colored fingers, but more than just pink and blue.



ACTIVITY SHEET: HAND WITH PINK AND BLUE FINGERS COLOR CODED

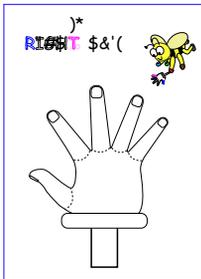
Oh, here is the hand with just a pink finger and blue finger colored.

When we learn to play the piano we pretend our fingers are all different colors.

We are going to learn to play a song about clocks called Tick Tock....the song we sang when we were pretending we were clocks.

Soooo, out pinkie finger is our pink finger.  
 Can you tap the table with your pink finger?  
 Now tap that pink finger two times. Good! Etc.  
 Which finger is the blue one?  
 Can you tap your blue thumb?  
 Tap your blue finger one time....now two times...etc.  
 Now let's go back and forth. Ready?  
 Pink, Blue, Pink, Blue, Pink, Blue, Pink, Blue  
 Sing...Tick (your pink one), Tock (your blue one), Tick Tock I Am A Clock

Children tend to make a fist as they try to tap these two fingers. Have them put their hand flat on the table with all their finger straight out. This is called star position. Have them pick up their hands and keep them in star position as they tap through the pinks and blues.



ACTIVITY SHEET: RIGHT HAND BLANK: color or use colored dot stickers

Let's color our pink and blue fingers so we have something to help us remember.

Oooo - even Busy Buzzy Bumblebee is showing us the correct finger colors!

Touch the finger that is supposed to be colored pink.

Ok, color that finger pink (or put a sticker dot on that finger)

Now touch that finger that is supposed to be colored blue.

Ok, color that finger blue.

Put your hand in star position - all fingers straight out and flat hand, just like you had it flat on the table.

Now touch that pink finger with your pink finger.

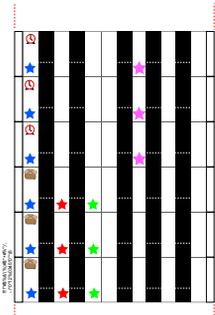
Now touch that blue finger with your blue finger. (Do pink, blue several times)

Good.

Let's play that song with the computer now.

Have the computer already on the home page. Tell the children that there are three parts. The show me part is fun to look at because it plays every song on the app so they can look and listen. The note part teaches how to read music - not ready for that yet! The teach me part is where we are going to go. Explain each screen as you go to Tick Tock. Have the children take turns tapping on the proper parts of the screens to continue. Explain that they have to tap on that Continue word or those screens will just sit there! You may want to have them go through this process more than once to make sure they can do it at home.

Oooo. There is a pink arrow pointing to a piano key. Which key is that on our keyboard? (probably cannot find it)  
That is kind of hard.  
I have something that can help



### KEYSTRIP FOR TICK TOCK

This is called a key strip.

This part of the keyboard is the part that works with the app.

(I have gold stars on the keys indicating the area used for the app.)

Look at the keyboard.

Do you see two black keys close together, then three black keys close together?

Put two fingers on a group of only two black keys.

Now make a fist and put it on a group of three black keys.

(Repeat until they do this with some ease.)

Now....can you put this key strip right over the black keys? (Help them find the 3 and 2 black key groups if necessary, so they can place the key strip properly.)

Take the strip from the keyboard and have each each student put it back. Do this a couple times to make sure they can do it independently.

You can pull the key strip forward so it is in the front part of the black keys.

Look, there is a pink star over the key that is for your pink pinkie finger and a blue star over the key that is for your blue thumb.

This will make it easy to play Tick Tock.

How do you know this key strip is for Tick Tock?

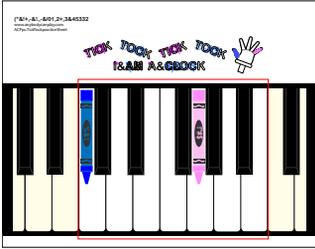
There is a little clock up there in the corner of that first white key.

\*\*If you think the children can do this, the blank key strip is a good patterning exercise to use now with Tick Tock and also with the next couple songs. If they are having trouble with patterning, just wait for the next song to do this activity.

(By the third or fourth song they should not have to use a key strip.) Use the blank key strips, go to the page on the app showing the color coded keys that are used for the song they are learning and have the students color code their key strip. This will probably take the whole lesson time to do this activity!

Have each child play the song they are working on with the computer - helping them when needed. Exclaim the "Good Job" at the end of the song with the computer.

Practice getting from the Home Page to Tick Tock with the students as well as how to place that Key Strip so they can do it independently at home.

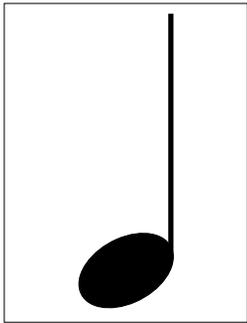


### ACTIVITY SHEET: PRACTICE SHEET FOR TICK TOCK.

Ask the children if they already have the app or if they already have a keyboard. If they do not have a keyboard yet, give them the laminated practice Tick Tock keyboard to take home so they can practice Tick Tock. Have them show you how to use the keyboard sheet so you know they will be able to use it to practice tapping their proper fingers.

**EXTRA: THEORY: Appropriate for Tick Tock kids or a bit later...**

Go to: [www.anybodycanplay.com](http://www.anybodycanplay.com), then click on "piano lessons" and you will see lists of activity sheets and games. This page is constantly being increased! Some of the Tick Tock activities available for download are shown below.



### EXTRA: GIANT QUARTER NOTE

Do you know what this thing is?

When we read stories there are alphabet letters on the page.

(show them a story book) The letters are put together to make words that tell the story.

When we read music for playing on the piano we have what are called notes.

This funny looking thing is called a quarter note.

When we write down all the notes for the Tick Tock song they are all quarter notes!

This squished round part is called the note head - looks more like a foot. - but sometimes notes in music are upside down (turn note over)

Oooo that note head does look more like a head now.

That note head is all filled in with black (move your finger like you are coloring the note head.)

This tall line is called a stem - that name is a bit strange too.



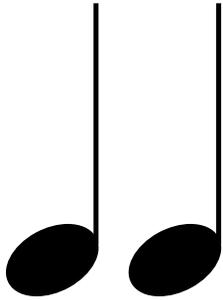
### EXTRA: FLOWER SHEET

Flowers stand on top of stems, so just remember a flower and you will remember that line is called a stem.

Here's a flower - here's a stem (Run your finger along the stem as you speak.) - etc.

### BACK TO QUARTER NOTE

Quarter notes just walk, walk, walk



### EXTRA: MEDIUM QUARTER NOTES STEP SHEETS

Pass out laminated quarter notes to each child. Also pass out steps sheet - scotch tape to table. (If possible have these step sheets upside down with scotch tap already on them so you can just turn them over and tape to table.)

OK, let's pretend we are quarter notes.

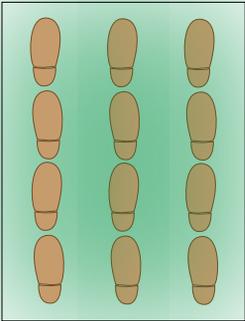
Hold your quarter note on that first footprint.

When I say walk, move your quarter note to the next footprint.

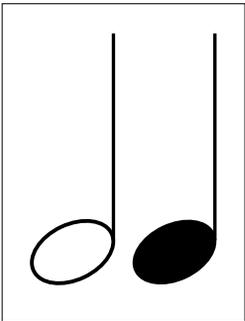
Walk

Walk

Walk



You may have to help the children a bit with this. Do it several times until they walk walk walk walk well. This is fun! When they are pretty good at this, clap in rhythm as you say walk walk walk walk.



### COLOR THAT QUARTER NOTE

Here is an exercise in recognition.

Pointing to first note ask... Is this a quarter note?

Is it exactly like a quarter note? No

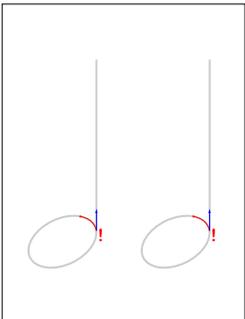
What does it need?

Yes, that note head needs to be black!

Let's color it now.

Is this one a quarter note?

Yes, it's note head is already colored black.



### TRACE THAT QUARTER NOTE

Now we get to draw a quarter note,

Start at that little red star and go around the note head.

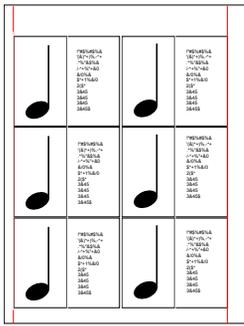
Now start at that star again and go straight up.

What else do we have to do?

Yes, color that note head black.

Good.

Now make that next note a real quarter note all by yourself.



### TINY QUARTER NOTE CARD

You will each get a little quarter note to take home. It will be in your packet. Since this is your first little card, it will be in this cute little plastic box. Be sure to keep all your little cards that you will be getting inside this same little box.