



# PIANO Wants to PLAY

WRITTEN AND  
ILLUSTRATED BY:  
COLLEEN KONG-SAVAGE

## ACTIVITY GUIDE

Piano and Amy share a special bond. Piano loves to play music with Amy. And Amy loves Piano, too.

“Play me, Amy! Play me!” Piano calls. And they do. Every day they play and practice, testing notes and strengthening fingers. From notes to scales to warm, rippling melodies, together they make a joyful noise.

Making beautiful music takes time, and as Amy grows she has less time to play with Piano, until one day, she disappears entirely, leaving Piano abandoned and lonely. Longing to sing but growing less hopeful for Amy’s return, Piano fears the worst when moved to a strange new home. But this new home, Piano finds, is a school, and Amy is now a music teacher. Following a surprise reunion that is sure to delight young readers, they share the joy of music with the next generation.

**COLLEEN KONG-SAVAGE** hopscotched from country to country before settling in New York City, where she earned an MFA in fiction-writing and a black belt in taekwondo. She has a passion for dance, a phobia of driving, and superior skills in gingerbread cookie art. Her illustration debut, *The Turtle Ship* (Lee & Low Books) by Helena Ku Rhee, garnered a Freeman honor. She is a freelance illustrator/graphic designer, as well as a teaching artist, creating murals with kids of all ages.

# MUSICAL MEMORIES

Number these Piano Wants to Play scenes from 1-9 in the order they happened in the book.



Amy and Piano teach together

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Amy meets Piano

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Rupert smashes Piano's keys

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A repair man fixes and tunes Piano

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Amy has less time for Piano

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Adult Amy meets Piano again

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Amy and Piano play wonderful music

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Amy practices scales to make her fingers strong

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Piano feels lonely

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Answers found on side of following page.



# FREEZE DANCE

(Group Activity)

## DIRECTIONS

- Put on some upbeat piano music and encourage group to dance.  
(ex: Boogie Woogie Stomp by Albert Ammons)
- For extra fun, encourage those participating to dance like certain musical instruments (dance like a piano sounds, dance like a drum beat, dance like a horn tooting)
- When the music stops, everyone has to freeze
- If you move after the music stops, you're out!
- Keep playing until the last participant is left standing!

Answers for "Musical Memories" on prev. page: (top row, l-r) 9, 1, 5 (middle row, l-r) 7, 4, 8 (bottom row, l-r) 3, 2, 6

# THINK, DRAW, AND WRITE

**THINK** about an object that you spend a lot of time with. (This could be a favorite toy, something you use for sports, an object used to get things done around the house, or anything else you can think of!)

If this object could talk, what would it say?

**DRAW** the object below. In the speech bubble, **WRITE** what the object might say if it could speak.



# COMPOSE PIANO AND AMY'S SECRET MESSAGE

Amy and Piano's friendship is communicated through the beautiful music they make together. Can you unscramble the words from the book below to discover their secret message?

<input type="text"/>	YAM
<input type="text"/>	NUF
<input type="text"/>	GONS
<input type="text"/>	OISNE
<input type="text"/>	TAC
<input type="text"/>	NIPAO
<input type="text"/>	TESON
<input type="text"/>	UFYJLO
<input type="text"/>	SELSNO
<input type="text"/>	YPAL

Did you decode the secret message? Fill in the circled letters below:

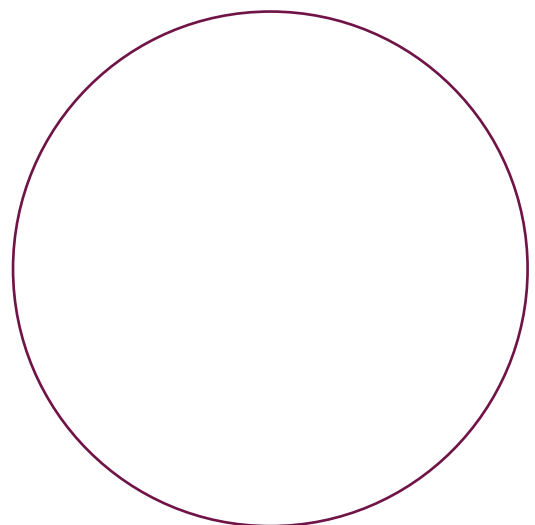
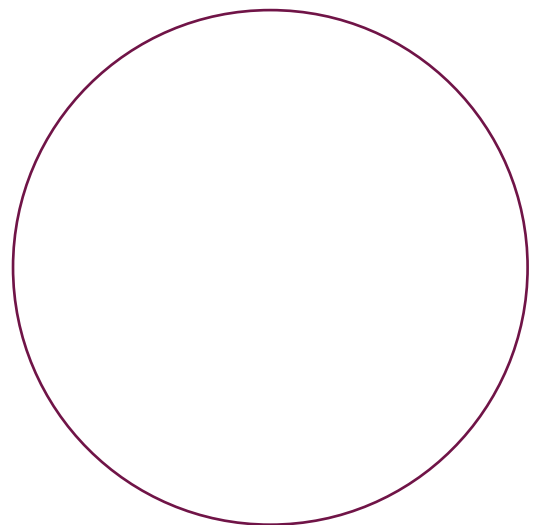
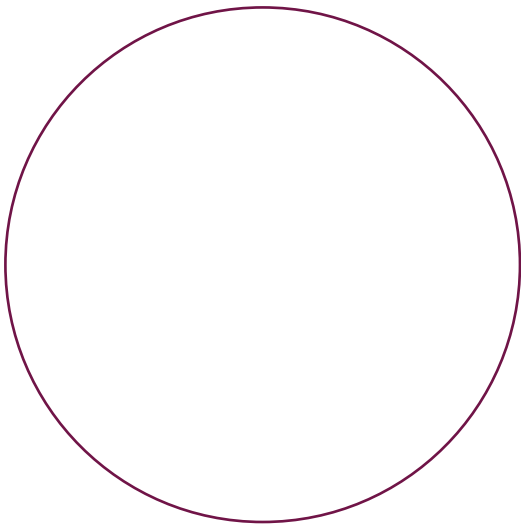
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WORD BANK:					
JOYFUL	SONG	CAT	AMY	NOTES	LESSON
FUN	PLAY	PIANO	NOISE		

# FEEL THE MUSIC

## DIRECTIONS

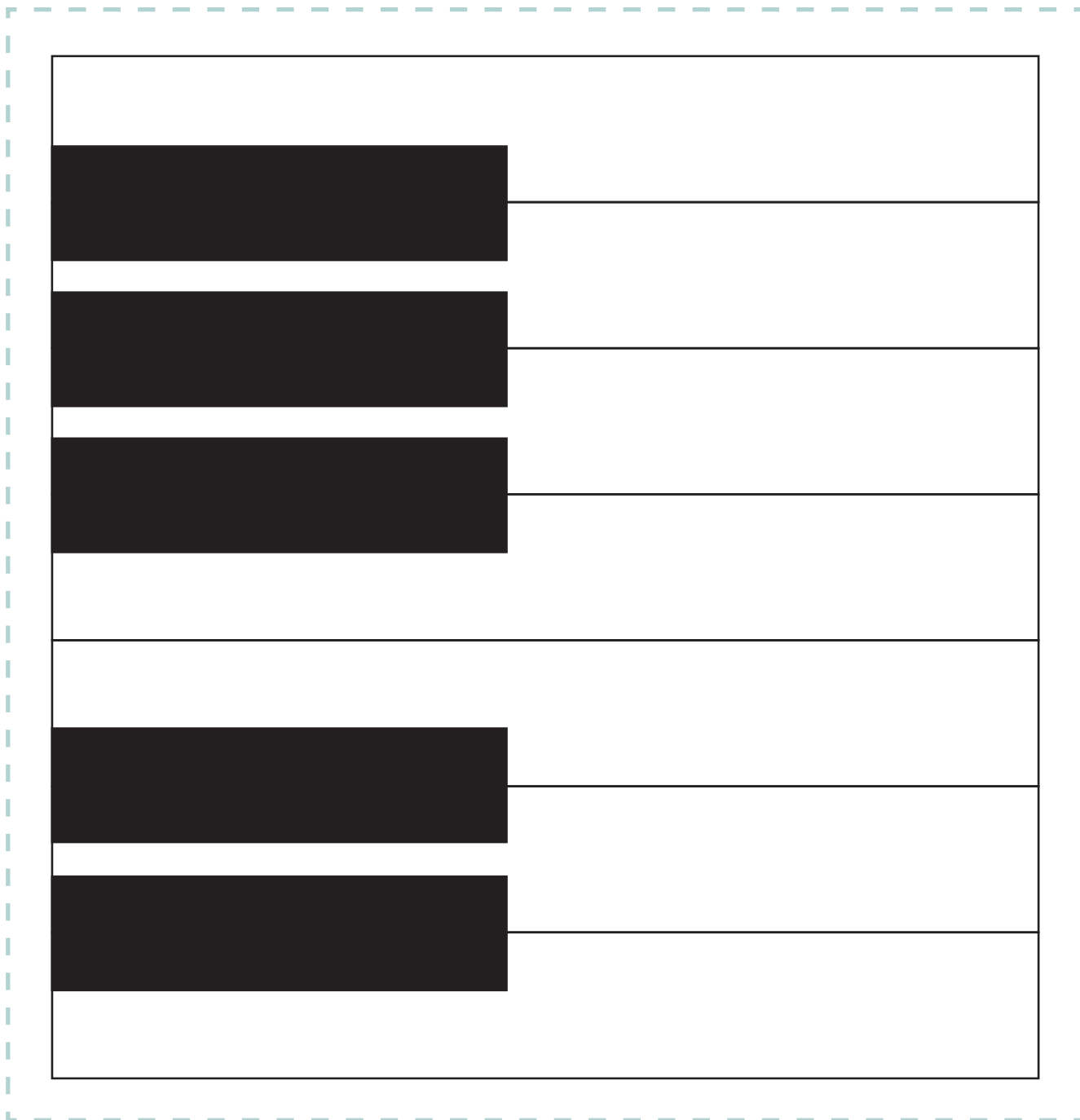
- Listen to four different types of music.
- How does the music make you feel? What mood or feeling does the mood express? What color does the music sound like?
- For each piece of music, finish a face below by thinking about how it makes you feel. Use facial expressions or even colors to emphasize what you hear in the music.



# MAKE YOUR OWN PIANO

## WHO'S READY TO MAKE MUSIC?

Cut along the dotted line and color your Piano keys to design your own keyboard.



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