

10 STEPS TO CREATING A

"Trash To Treasure" Masterpiece!

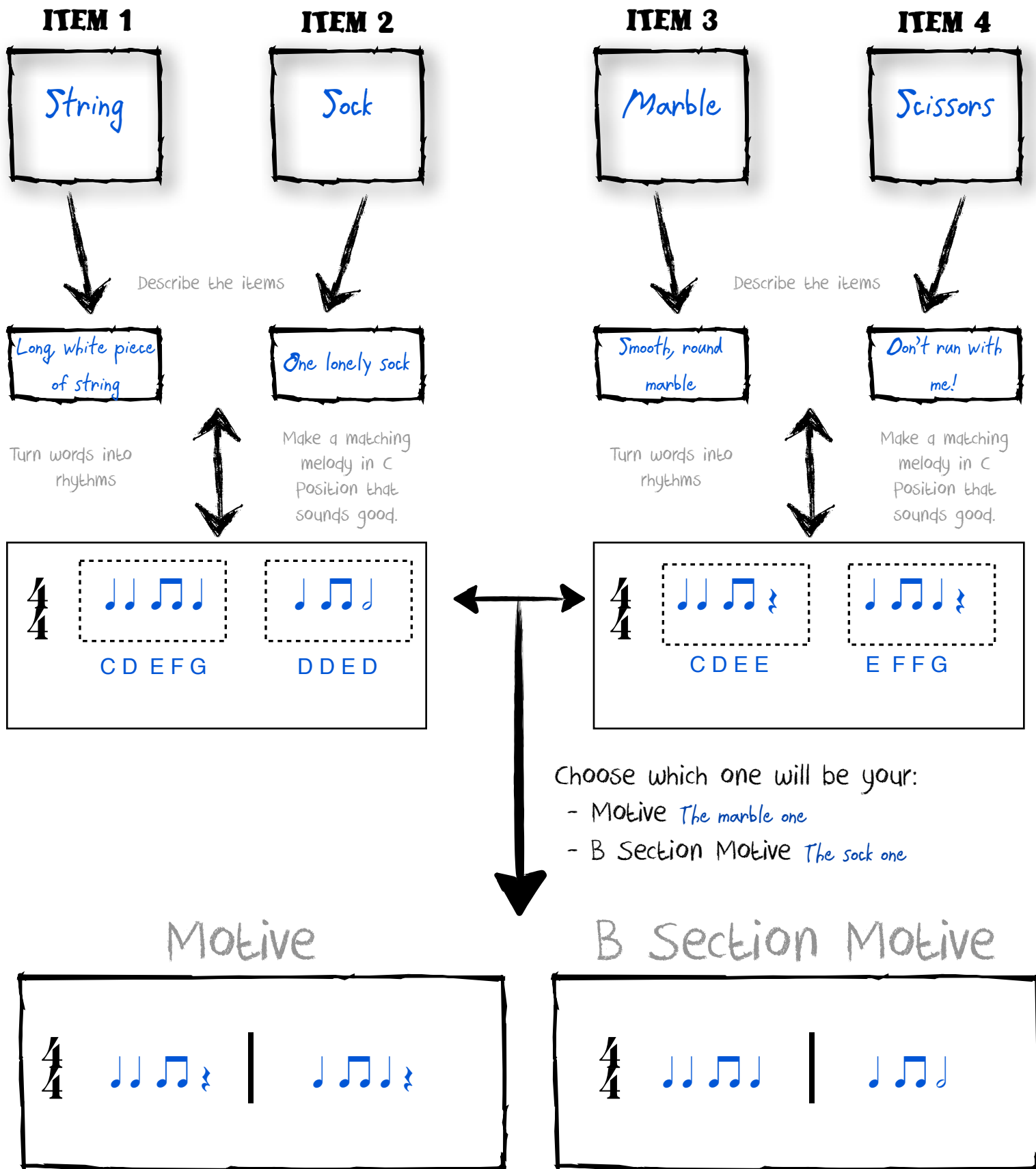
In this activity your piano students will be creating two motives using four items they find in their selected mystery bag. Your students will need to know the definition of a motive (a repeating bit of melody that forms the backbone of a piece). Their composition will be composed in the key of C major and in ABA form (but feel free to move away from this beginning structure as your student becomes more adept at *Trash to Treasure Composing*).

1. Choose a mystery bag and discover the items inside.
2. Write the name of each of the 4 items found in the mystery bags in the 4 "Item" boxes.
3. In the 2nd row of boxes, write a short description of each of the 4 items. For example: "*little black cat*" or "*shiny silver coin*".
4. Create a rhythm (in $\frac{4}{4}$ time) for each description by clapping and saying the words. For example, "*little black cat*" becomes ♪♪♪ and "*shiny silver coin*" becomes ♪♪♪. Write the rhythm inside the boxes with the dashed borders.
5. With your hands in "C Position" create a melody that fits with each rhythm. Write the note names (as letters) below each rhythm.
6. Choose your favorite rhythm/melody as your motive. The other rhythm/melody becomes the B Section Motive.
7. Following the instructions above the boxes on the staff paper, insert the Motive and the B Section Motive. There are two measures where you can choose your own notes and rhythm.
8. Play your "Trash to Treasure" composition! Feel free to add a left hand if desired.
9. Create a title for the piece based on one of the descriptions "*Little Black Cat*" etc. and write it on the top of the piece.
10. Share your *Trash to Treasure* masterpiece!

Note: Pages 1 and 2 are examples of how to use the worksheets. Pages 4 and 5 are the blank worksheets for your students' use.

TRASH to Treasure Composing

EXAMPLE



Your Motive

Handwritten musical notation for measures 1 and 2. The treble clef staff contains a melody of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, followed by a quarter rest. The bass clef staff contains whole rests. The time signature is 4/4.

Your Motive

Handwritten musical notation for measures 3 and 4. The treble clef staff contains a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, followed by a quarter rest. The bass clef staff contains whole rests. The time signature is 4/4.

Your B Section Motive

5

Handwritten musical notation for measures 5 and 6. The treble clef staff contains a melody of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, followed by a half note. The bass clef staff contains whole rests. The time signature is 4/4.

Just the 1st measure of
your B Section motive

Handwritten musical notation for measure 7. The treble clef staff contains a melody of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4. The bass clef staff contains a whole rest. The time signature is 4/4.

Your Choice!

Handwritten musical notation for measure 8. The treble clef staff contains a whole note C4. The bass clef staff contains a whole rest. The time signature is 4/4.

Your Motive

9

Handwritten musical notation for measures 9 and 10. The treble clef staff contains a melody of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, followed by a quarter rest. The bass clef staff contains whole rests. The time signature is 4/4.

Just the 1st measure of
your Motive

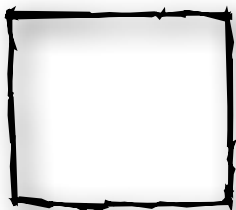
Handwritten musical notation for measure 11. The treble clef staff contains a melody of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4. The bass clef staff contains a whole rest. The time signature is 4/4.

A Fabulous ending!

Handwritten musical notation for measure 12. The treble clef staff contains a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, followed by a quarter rest. The bass clef staff contains a whole rest. The time signature is 4/4.

TRASH to *Treasure* Composing

ITEM 1

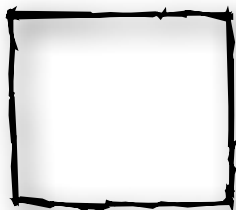


Describe the items



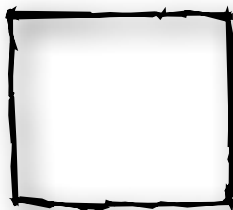
Turn words into
rhythms

ITEM 2



Make a matching
melody in C
position that
sounds good.

ITEM 3

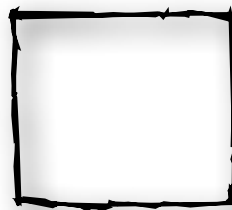


Describe the items

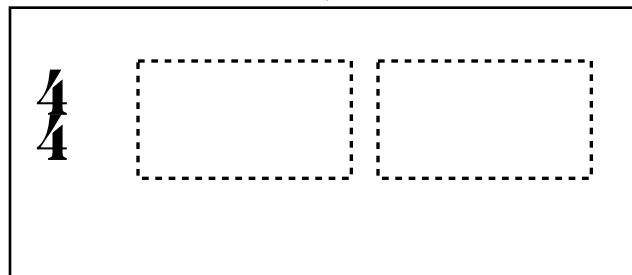
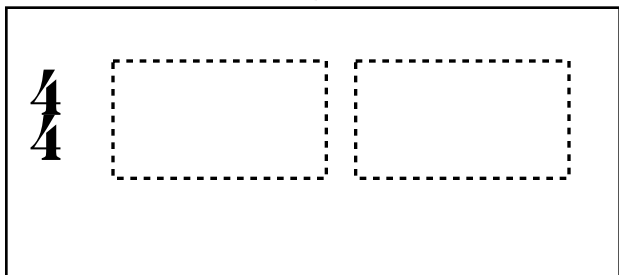


Turn words into
rhythms

ITEM 4



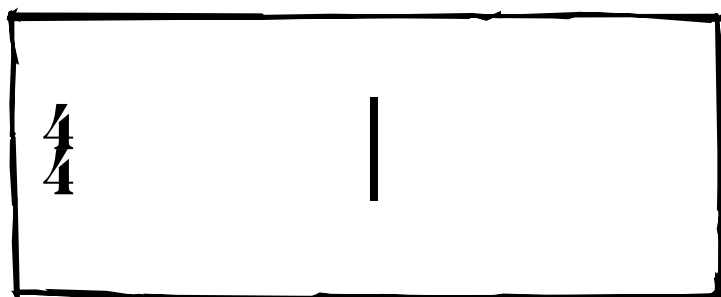
Make a matching
melody in C
position that
sounds good.



Choose which one will be your:

- Motive
- B Section Motive

Motive



B Section Motive

