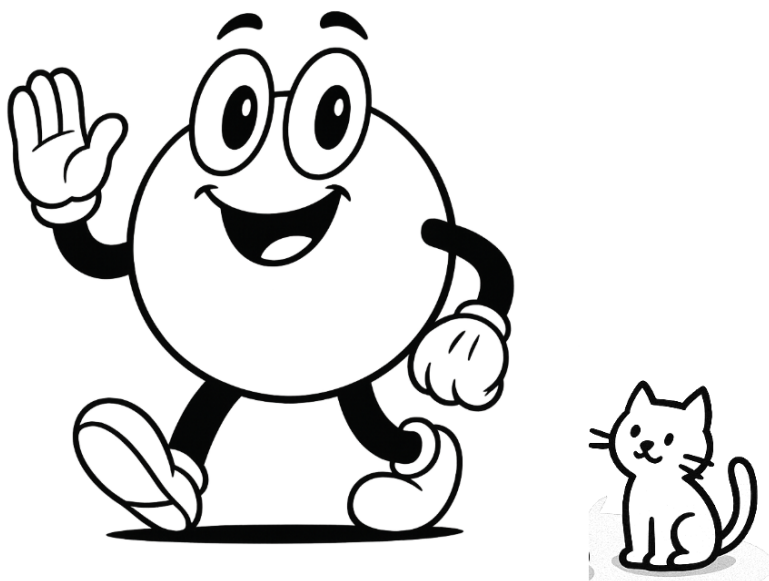


Lesson 2 – The Cat and the Cave



Willie whispered: “A sneaky cat hides in the cave... tiptoe between F and G! Sometimes the cat sings short little steps, sometimes it pauses in silence. Listen carefully — this is how music plays hide and seek with notes and rests.”

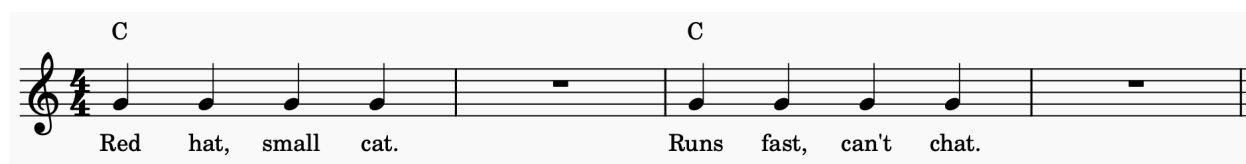
Warm-Up – Tone Builder

Play the notes in the staff below slowly as **whole notes**, then as **half notes**, and finally as **quarter notes**. Start from the first note as written and go down, then turn around and go back up to the first note in the score. Keep every note steady and focus on producing clean, long tones on your instrument.

Tone Range:



The Cat and the Cave



Music Theory



This piece teaches us the **quarter note** Grace and the **quarter rest**. A quarter note lasts for **1 beat**. Four quarter notes fill one measure in **4/4 time**. The **quarter rest** also lasts for 1 beat, but it means silence instead of sound.

The melody uses only the note **G**, which sits on the **second line of the treble staff**. In Willie's family story, this note is **Grace G**. Above the staff, we see the harmony marking **C**, which means the melody note G belongs to the **C major chord (C–E–G)**. Even though we only play G, we can hear how it fits inside the chord.

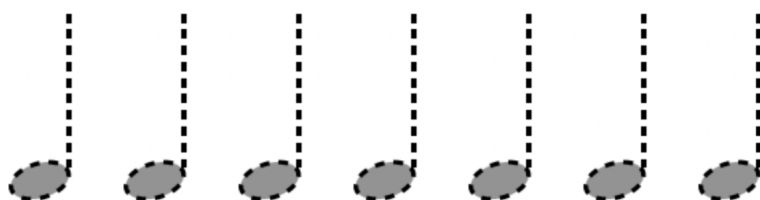
Quarter notes are like **walking steps**: steady, one per beat. Quarter rests are like **pauses**: one silent beat. Together they create rhythm, showing how sound and silence share the same musical time.



Trace the dots to finish Grace the Quarter Note.

She is Willie the Whole Note's daughter. Grace lasts for **1 beat** — just one slice of pizza.

Clap 4 steady quarter notes while the teacher counts “**1–2–3–4.**” Did it sound even?



Music Form

This piece uses **quarter notes** to make a steady walking rhythm. Each group of four quarter notes forms a **motif** — a small musical idea. The first motif says “Red hat, small cat.” The

second motif answers with “Runs fast, can’t chat.” Together, they create a tiny musical conversation of question and answer.

How many beats does each motif last?

What makes the rhythm feel like walking?

How do the two motifs sound like a question and an answer?

Complimentary Song – Row, Row, Row Your Boat (in G)

First, let’s all sing the song together.

While we sing, some of you can play a steady G note as a drone — that means holding the same note while others sing.

If you play guitar, ukulele, or keyboard, you can strum or play the G chord to keep the harmony steady.

At the end, everyone sings "Life is but a dream" softly, like it is floating away down the river.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of four staves, each with a 'G' above it, indicating a drone note. The lyrics are: "Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream, Mer-ri-ly, mer-ri-ly, mer-ri-ly, mer-ri-ly, Life is but a dream." The melody is simple and repetitive, with a steady rhythm that feels like walking.

Reflection

Reflection – Everyone

When we switched between F and G, did it feel easier when you were counting the beat or when you listened to the others around you?

Reflection – Challenge

How did the rests in today's piece change the way the rhythm felt compared to only playing sound?
