

Activity 2: Teacher demonstrates different sounds using the keys (student imitates – student can close his/her eyes if appropriate).

Details: Play multiple versus single keys.

Details: Play loudly versus softly, fast versus slow, high versus low, long versus short (be creative).

Activity 3: Student creates sounds using the keys.

Details: Discuss what the student does to make each of these sounds (for example, the finger presses faster into the keys for louder sound).

Details: Encourage the student to play both hands together, to alternate hands, etc. (tailor this activity to the student's playing level).

Activity 4: Student learns the effect of each pedal.

Part 1: Teacher first presses down each pedal and plays some notes and then the student either presses down the pedal and/or plays the notes.

Details: Listen with the student to what happens to each sound.

Details: Listen with the student to how long each sound lasts (this can be made into a game of raising your hand or saying "stop" when the sound ends).

Part 2: Complete the same activity in Part 1 without the pedal and/or use the pedal only with certain keys.

Details: Discuss what happens to each sound.

Details: Relate and compare each sound to student's favorite character/animal to identify the sounds.

Part 3: Compare sounds with and without the pedal so that the student clearly hears the difference (this may overlap with Part 2).

C. Learning how the piano works (10 minutes)

Activity 1: Remove the top cover, front covers, or lift the lid of the piano so that the strings and hammers are exposed.

Part 1: Teacher plays single high, middle, and low notes as the student watches what happens with the hammers.

Part 2: Student plays across the keyboard (including black notes) and watches what happens with the hammers.

Part 3: Discuss about what happens and what the hammers and strings look like.

Part 4: Student and teacher place dot stickers of the same color on different keys to make patterns (you can also write on the keys with washable markers).

Details: Student and teacher play these patterns together.

Details: Always have the student watch what happens with the hammers as he/she presses the keys.

Activity 2: Name the parts of the piano: strings and hammers.

Part 1: Put one sticker on the low, middle, and high keys and their corresponding strings.

Details: Relate each key to the string and the corresponding keyboard area and sound (high, middle, low).

Part 2: Play the sounds and tunes previously played in the lesson while the student looks at the hammers and strings – this may have already occurred in Section A.

D. Summarize how the piano works (2 minutes)

End with having the student summarize how the piano works, what he/she has learned, and what his or her favorite sound is.

Bonus material: Download the Piano Parts Word Search from the Learning Center at www.ptg.org to learn more about the parts of the piano.