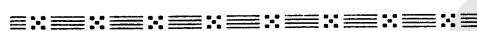


FOREWORD

This First Piano Book is designed for the very youngest beginner. It has been used successfully in the teaching of children as young as four and five years. In it the author has attempted to link up with music many of the daily experiences in the life of the young child. Interest is sustained throughout by the use of songs about birds, animals, children, ships, and flowers. The child will already know many of the pieces and will become familiar with others as he progresses in his school work.

The writer wishes to dedicate this book to his pupils and especially to his daughter, Marilyn, who at a very early age played all these songs in manuscript.



TO THE TEACHER

This series of piano instruction books was written according to very definite principles. In the First Book the hand-position with thumbs over Middle-C is used throughout; all pieces, exercises, and notation being kept within the limits of "A" above and "E" below Middle-C. With pre-school and kindergarten children the ROTE and FINGERING approach can be used, the actual note-reading being postponed until the children have learned the alphabet. A combination of the three approaches—ROTE, FINGERING, and NOTATION is best if the child is six or seven years old.

The writer suggests that each piece in the book be taught the child as a rote-song. A few minutes may then be spent in explaining new words, suggesting colours for the pictures and arousing interest in the song. Then details such as fingering, notation and phrasing can be dealt with in turn. To avoid confusing the early beginner with too much scoring the slurs are omitted until later in the book. As each song is prepared the teacher should, of course, draw attention to the various musical phrases and sentences, showing how the music is derived from the words.

Because of their unique approach and careful grading, "Piano Play For Every Day" books are ideal for either individual or class instruction.



TO THE PARENT

This new approach to the study of the piano is so easy that the mother who does not play the instrument or is able to play only a little can help her young child. Once the child's thumbs are correctly placed over Middle-C, it is simply a matter of guiding the tiny fingers into the correct number positions. With a little practice even the parent with no musical knowledge can play these tunes. The mother can help still more by teaching the child to sing the songs away from the piano. When a piece is learned the child should be encouraged to play with a firm clear tone and to sing quietly with a soft voice.

Remember that love, encouragement and infinite patience are needed in teaching little children to play the piano.

Merrily We Roll Along



Mer-ri-ly we roll a-long, roll a-long, roll a-long,



Mer-ri-ly we roll a-long, O'er the bright blue sea.



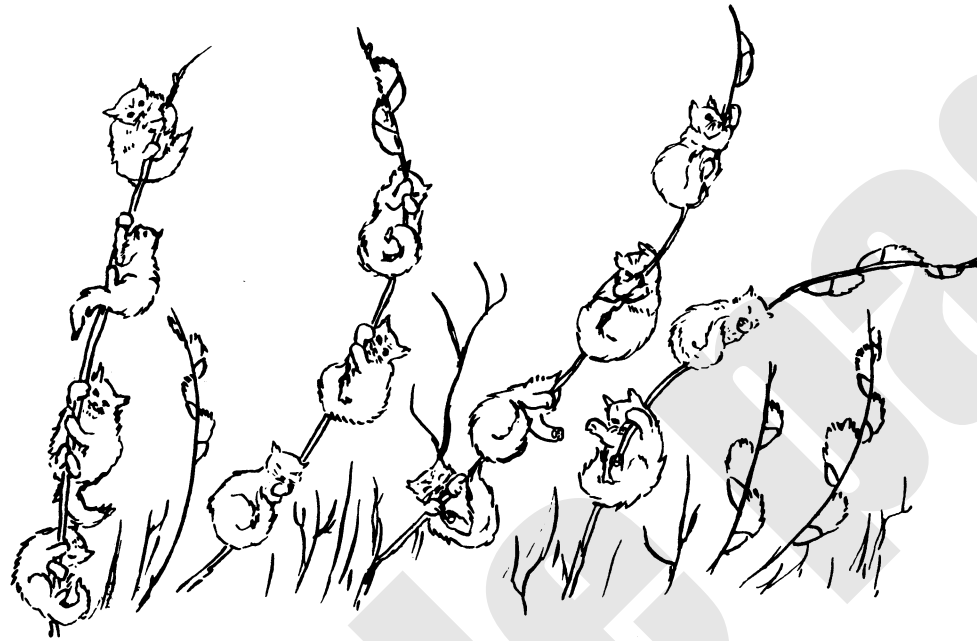
Now the Day Is Over



Now the day is o-ver, Night is draw-ing nigh,



Shad-ows of the eve-ning, Steal a-cross the sky.



The Pussy-Willow Brigade

ANNE SUTHERLAND

G. BARTON

By a brief May moon, in their soft grey shoon, Hear them, Pomp! Pómp! Pomp! Pomp! March-ing thro' the swamp;

Not a mor-tal eye sees them pass-ing by, While a May bfeeze croons pus-sy wil-low tunes.

1 2 1 3 5 5 3 4 2

5 4 3 2