

The header features a background of colorful musical notes (blue, red, green, yellow, purple) floating on a grey staff. A white rectangular box with a red border is positioned on the right side of the staff.

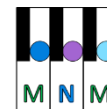
MERRIENAN® MELODIES

A Colorful Way To Learn Music

MNM Sample Songs e-Book

with a printable Colored Keyboard

Nan Funkhouser *and* Merrie Skaggs *with* Betty Todd Smith, Editor





The Original “MerrieNan”

Merrie and Nan

The MerrieNan® Melodies© approach to teaching people how to read music is the result of a collaboration between two sisters, Merrie Skaggs and Nan Funkhouser. Merrie was Nan’s first piano teacher. Nan graduated from Wichita State University with a bachelor’s degree in Music Performance and a minor in Piano Performance. She played French Horn with the Kansas City Symphony for 25 years. Merrie earned a bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education, a master’s degree in Curriculum and Instruction, and a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction. She taught for 13 years in public schools before shifting her focus to teacher education at Baker University where she taught for 26 years. Both Merrie and Nan are interested in supporting the joyful education of music students of all ages.

Betty

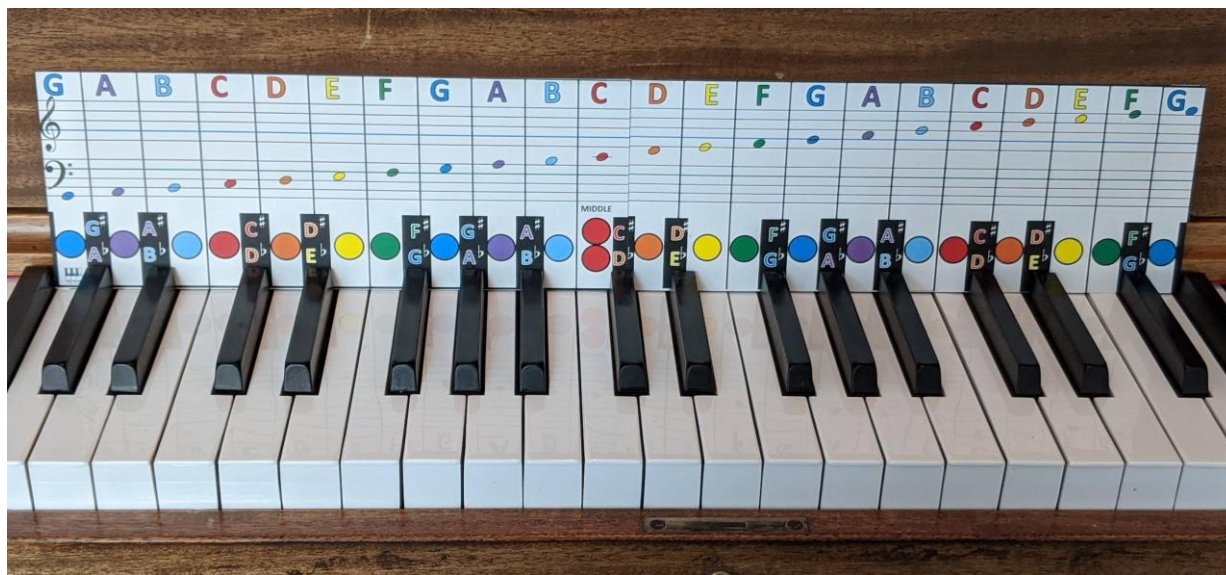
Originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma, Betty Todd Smith is an MTNA Permanent Nationally Certified Teacher of piano with a BA in Music (piano, voice) from Abilene Christian University and a MMusic in Piano Performance from Arizona State University. She completed all levels of Suzuki piano teacher training and Musikgarten curriculum. Betty founded and directed the Piano and Pre-school Music Departments for the Tulsa Institute for Music Education, Inc., and developed music curriculum for Undercroft Montessori School in Tulsa. She directed early childhood music programs at various Montessori schools as well as Pembroke Hill in the Kansas City area. Betty served as District One President of Kansas Music Teachers Association and area Chairman for the National Piano Guild. She teaches traditional and Suzuki piano to students ranging from age 3 to adult; has presented workshop sessions at national and state conventions; adjudicates; and enjoys collaborative performances.

December 14, 2023

January 6, 2024

Try It, You'll Like It!

MerrieNan Melodies is a proven, unique approach to learning to read music. Students as young as four or as old as 94 can learn with this method, and YOU are the teacher! Everything you need is in the curriculum program.





First. . .

Have fun trying out our special color approach to playing music!

Take in the basic explanation of our patented approach to learning to read and write music. This information is on the next slide.

For more information, check out the details on our website at merrienan.com.

USING THE MNM MUSIC NOTE CODE

MNM™ MUSIC NOTE CODE						
A	B	C	D	E	F	G
H	I	J	K	L	M	N
O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
V	W	X	Y	Z		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	0				

MNM uses the **MUSIC NOTE CODE** card to translate all 26 letters of the alphabet plus the 10 digits to the first 7 letters of the alphabet. This lets you write songs about anything! Simply find the letter or number you want to use and look up at the top row to see which note of the musical alphabet it is under. Of course, **A-B-C-D-E-F** and **G** don't need translating!

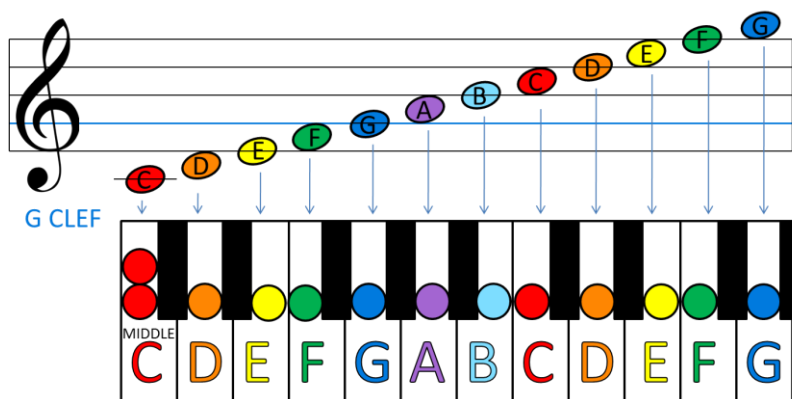
Here is an example of a **NAME SONG**. Match the written notes with the notes on the piano keyboard.

MY NAME SONG EXAMPLE

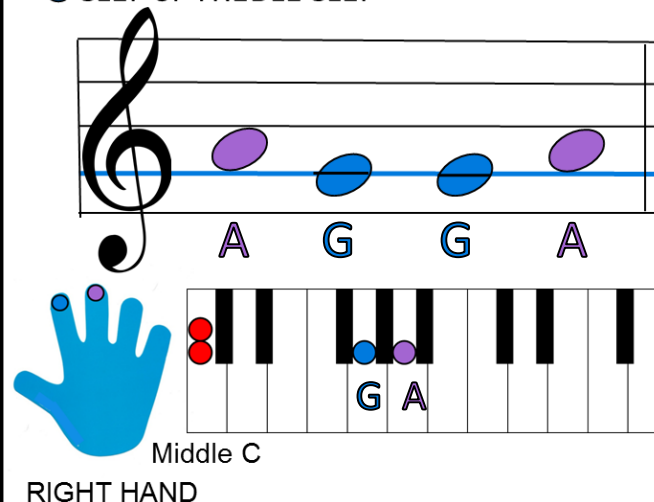
Your **NAME**: ANNA

Your **NAME** in MNM Music Code: A G G A

G/TREBLE KEYBOARD TO STAFF GUIDE



G CLEF or TREBLE CLEF



DIRECTIONS...

Print

Print the Colored Keyboard on the next slide. Heavier paper would be helpful.


























Cut

Cut the page in half lengthwise. You will need to trim the edges also. Then tape the two pieces together as seen in the photo.

Place

Place this behind your keys on your piano as a guide to know where the notes are on the piano.

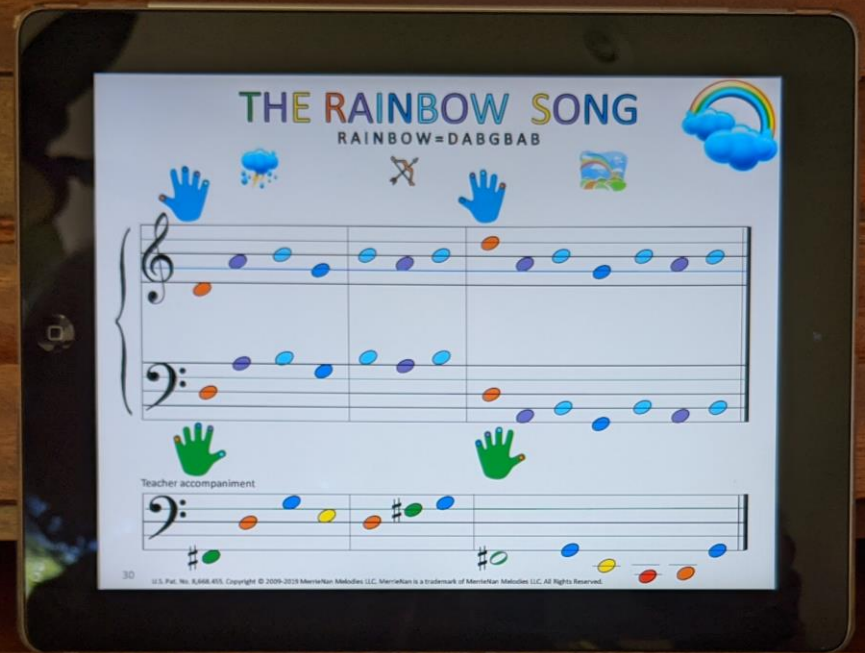


G	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
										
										
										
	G[♯] A[♭]	A[♯] B[♭]		C[♯] D[♭]	D[♯] E[♭]		F[♯] G[♭]	G[♯] A[♭]	A[♯] B[♭]	MIDDLE C D
D	E	F	G	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
										
♯ ♭	D[♯] E[♭]		F[♯] G[♭]	G[♯] A[♭]	A[♯] B[♭]		C[♯] D[♭]	D[♯] E[♭]		F[♯] G[♭]

Next . . .

Place your iPad, foldable computer screen, or phone where it can be seen while seated at the piano or keyboard.

The songs are bright and colorful! And the pages turn with the flick of a finger!





And then. . .

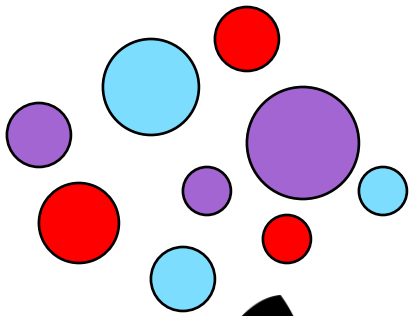
The *Polka Dot Song* and the *Bubbles Song* are examples from our EarlyStart Level 1 Songbook for 4-6 year olds. There is no rhythm because we are focusing on the notes. Rhythm comes later in the WriteRhythm Level 3 of the program.



...have fun!

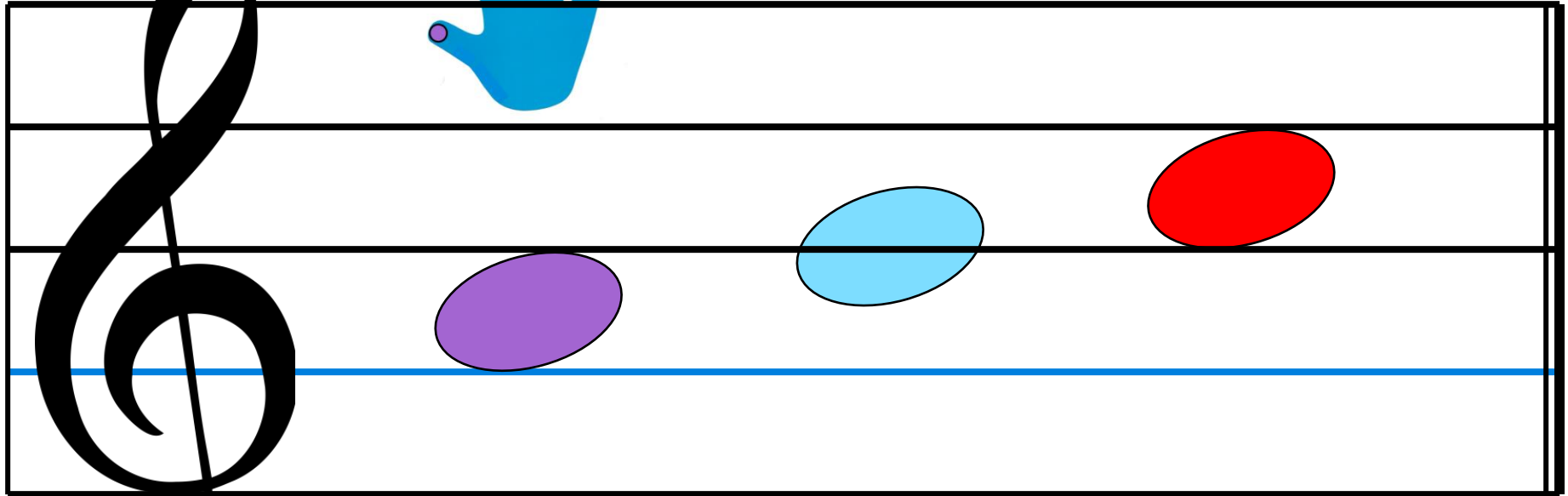
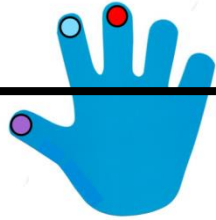
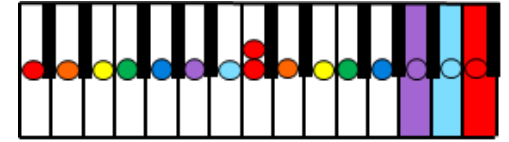
The little blue hands with dots on the tips of the fingers let the learner know where to place his/her fingers. For this little sample book, just let them play with one finger, their pointer finger, as that's the way beginners often do.

The pictures in the upper right-hand corners show where to play the notes. Middle C has two red dots. Try to find that on the piano. These two songs are played to the right of Middle C.



POLKA DOT SONG

From the MNM EarlyStart Songbook



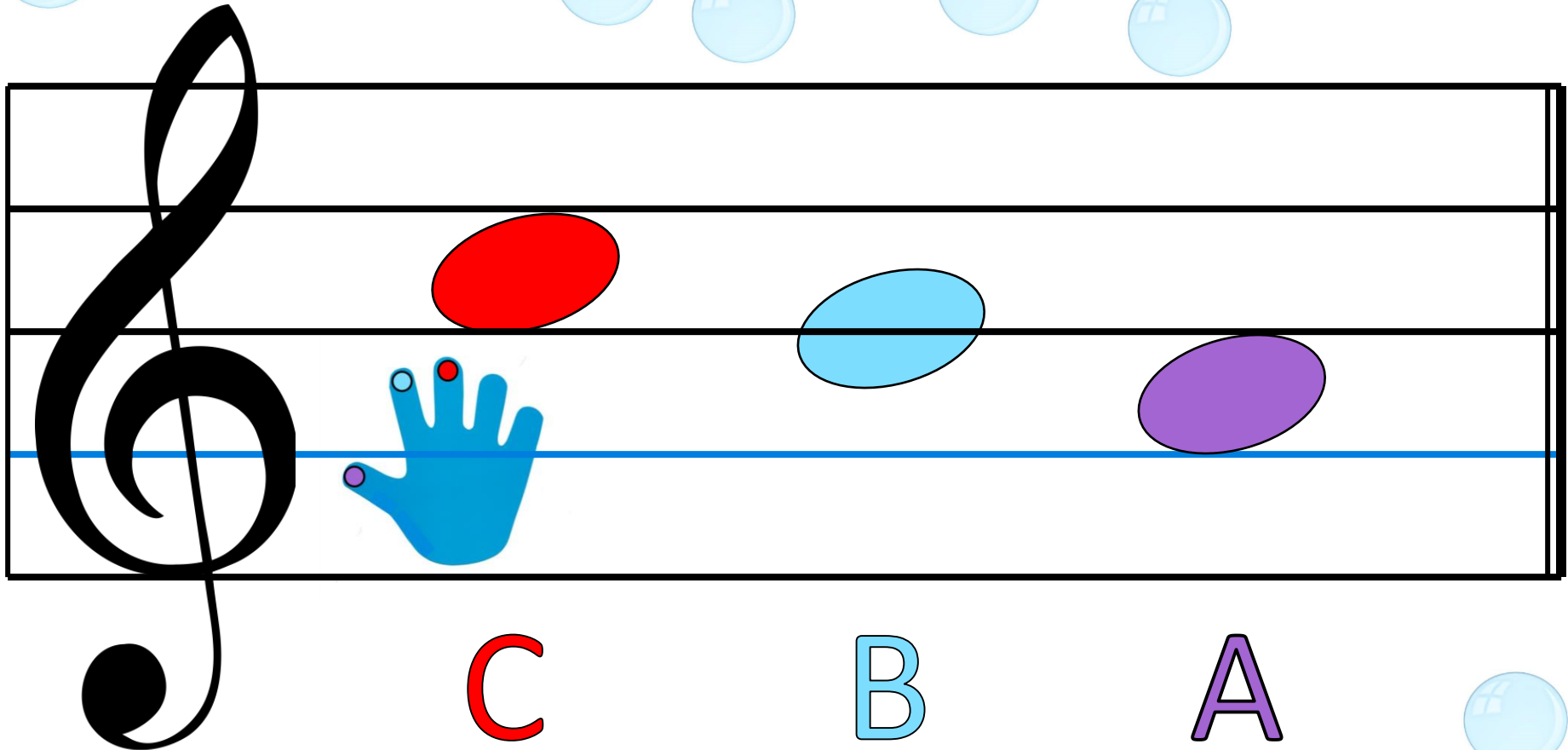
A

B

C

BUBBLES SONG

From the MNM EarlyStart Songbook



More . . .

- Try out the next song. The colored notes on the page let you know what note on the piano to play. Since most of you already know “Happy Birthday,” you supply the rhythm.
- In the MerrieNan Melodies program, we guide you to easily learn what all the other markings on a page of music mean. For now, just look at the colored notes and sing along as you play.
- Have fun playing the songs for your family and friends—and yourself!

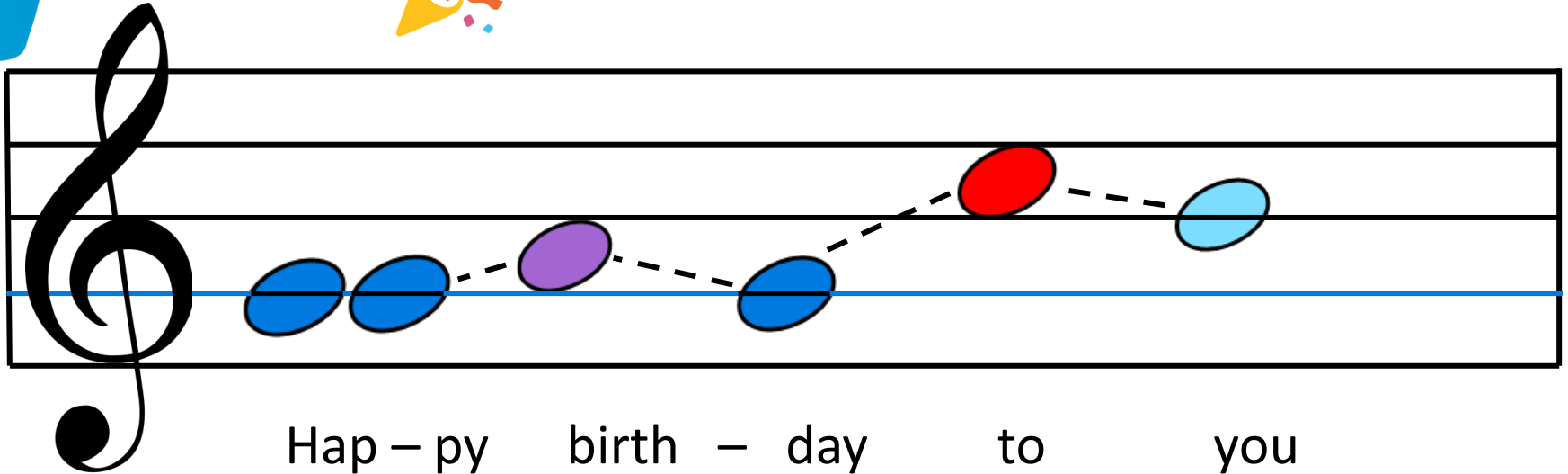
... fun!

- If you want more of our method and curriculum, go to the website at merrienan.com.
- Let us know if this was easy—and fun! We'd love to hear from you!
merrie@merrienan.com

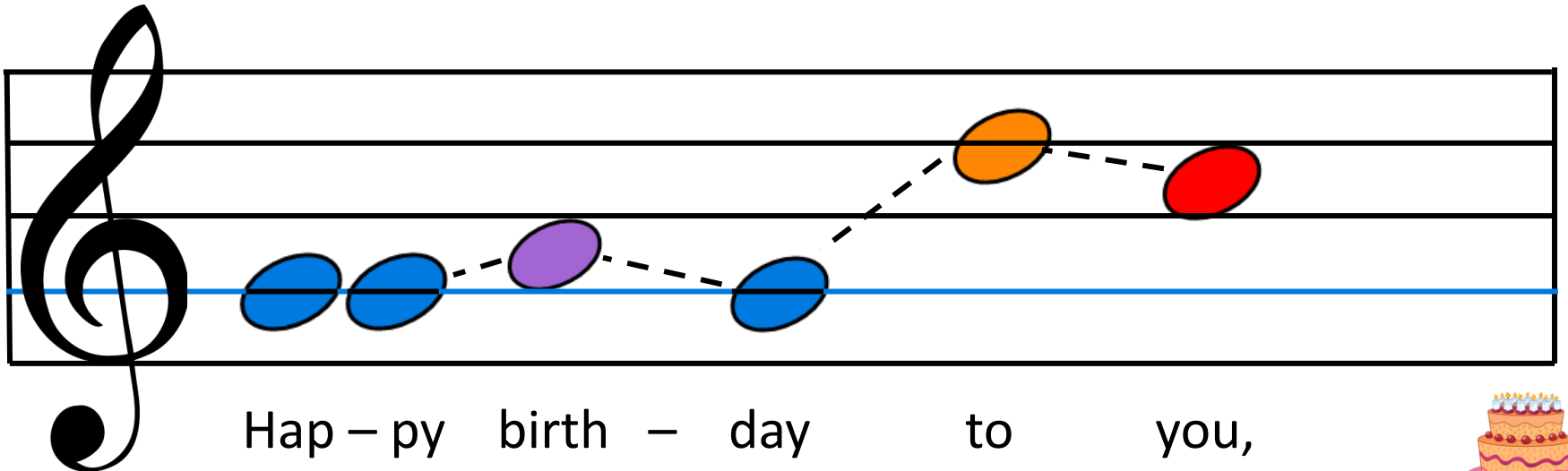
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU



RIGHT HAND



Hap - py birth - day to you

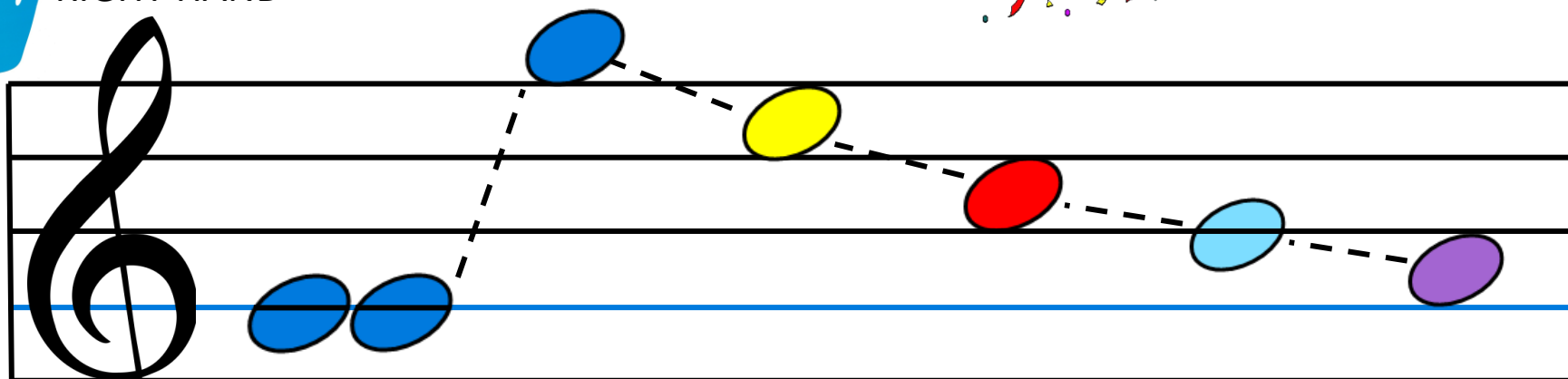


Hap - py birth - day to you,

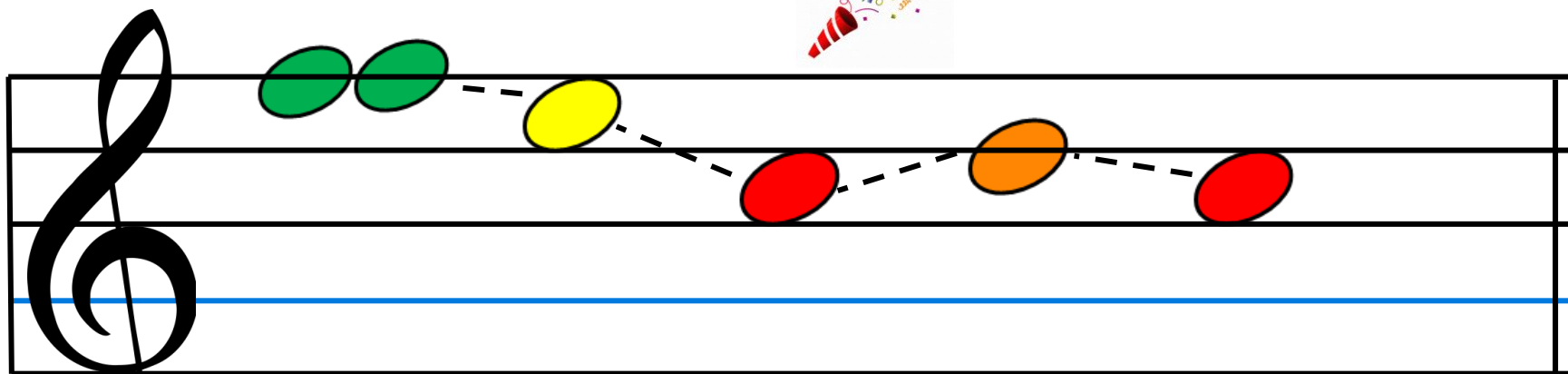




 RIGHT HAND



Hap - py birth - day dear _____



Hap - py birth - day to you!





MerrieNan Melodies Program Structure

LEVEL	COLOR OF BOOK COVER	NAME OF BOOKS
1 (Pre-A)	Blue for G*	EarlyStart Books
2 (A)	Purple for A	WriteStart Books
3 (B)	Sky Blue for B	WriteRhythm Books
4 (C)	Red for C	WriteWay Books

***Because G is before A on a keyboard**

1824 N. 300 Road, Baldwin City, KS 66006

785-766-7632 merrienan.com help@merrienan.com