

**Suggestions on How to Integrate the
New York State Common Core Learning Standards in Math
with the Practice and Performance of Simple Piano Melodies**

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[The New York State p12 Common Core Learning Standards in Mathematics](#) are compatible with [The New York State Arts Standards](#). Combining the two can lead to a more analytical approach, enable students to learn songs faster, and instill a greater sense of success for the students. It is a current trend to combine both sets of standards. What follows is an example of how to use the [NYS p12 CCLS](#) with the creation or the practice and performance of piano melodies found at [specialneedsinmusic.com](#) and other sources.

For example, [Three Little Birds](#) by Bob Marley is a fun favorite of many of my piano students. They greatly enjoy counting up the 7 A's on the second line of the song when playing it in C major.

Sample Suggested General Aim

Aim: Students will create, practice, or perform a song on a pitched instrument while incorporating one or more of the following mathematical concepts found in [The New York State p12 Common Core Learning Standards in Mathematics](#): counting, measurement, use of patterns, equations, equalities or inequalities, more and less.

Please note: The above aim incorporates [New York State Standard 1 in the Arts](#). and the [Alternate Assessment Stand 1](#) for special needs learners.

Sample Song - [When The Saints Go Marching In](#)

CEFG CEFG
CEFG E C E D
EEDC CE GGGF
EFG E C D C

Sample Questions (It may be necessary to use simpler wording at times such as: "Count up the number of notes".)

1. How many times do we play the pattern CEFG ? _____
(A good approach is to have the student circle each CEFG pattern and then count the total number of circles drawn.)
2. How many E's are there in the song? _____

3. How many D's are there in the song? _____
4. Are there more E's than D's? _____
5. In line 1, does the first phrase equal the second phrase? _____
6. How many G's are there in a row in line 3 _____?
7. How many notes are there in the song? _____?

Additional Links

infusing mathematical concepts into a music curriculum

http://specialneedsinmusic.com/text/lessons/lesplns/math_inferences_.pdf

Kaila Rochelle's Math + Music Web Page

http://specialneedsinmusic.com/m_m_pg1.html

Standards Based Goals for Special Needs and Other Students

<http://specialneedsinmusic.com/text/lessons/strats/goals.pdf>