

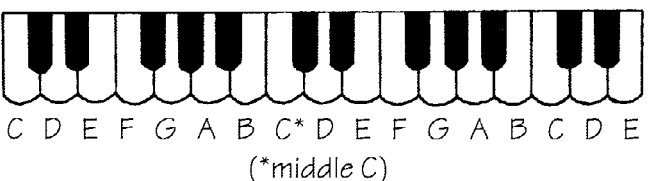
THE STAVE AND THE MUSICAL ALPHABET

- In music, notes are printed on 5 lines one above the other, known as a **stave**. Notes can be either on the lines or in the spaces between.

- A note near the top of the stave will sound higher than one at the bottom.

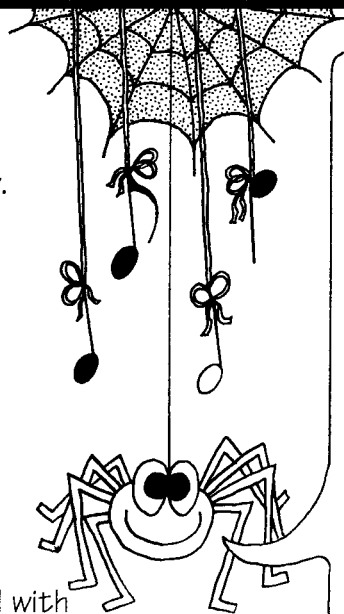
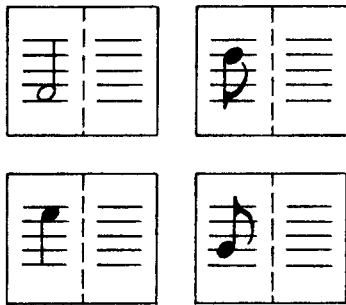
- Every musical note has a letter name: A, B, C, D, E, F or G. This picture of the middle section of a piano keyboard shows how they are repeated over and over again.

- The distance between a note and the next with the same letter name is called an **octave**.



C D E F G A B C* D E F G A B C D E
(*middle C)

Copy out these notes, making sure the stems and tails go the right way.



The way a stem is written changes depending on how high or low a note is on the stave. If it's near the bottom, the stem is on the right, pointing up: ♯ If it's near the top, the stem is on the left, pointing down: ♮ (On the middle line, the stem can go either up or down.)

Watch out for quavers! – their stems also go up or down, but the tails are always on the right hand side: ♯ and ♮.

Here's a musical crossword with the answers already provided. Can you work out where they go?

- 3 letters: bar, one
- 4 letters: beam, beat, head, name, note, stem, tail, tune
- 5 letters: lines, music, space, stave
- 6 letters: common, middle, octave, quaver
- 8 letters: alphabet
- 9 letters: semibreve, signature

