

Bonnie Verron

Connetquot Schools District

Grades K - 5

Elementary General Music

CCLS - Reading for Information - Critical listening

Music specific vocabulary

Folk songs

Sing and play with others

Reading for Literature - Music specific vocabulary

Cultural Connections

Reading Foundational Skills - Read music notation

Rhythm, note reading

Music reading, practice for fluency

Pluto Piano -

[itunes.apple.com/us/app/pluto-learns-piano/id483935591?](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pluto-learns-piano/id483935591?)

Pluto Piano is a big hit in the elementary classroom. The app is free but only comes with a starter set of songs. Earning more song paks is simple to acquire just by playing/practicing. The object of the 'game' is to swim your penguin thru the ocean while picking up the correct note bubbles. A great introduction to music note reading - treble clef with lines/spaces and note names provided. A piano option is also available. The piano keys light up to provide instant feedback for correct note playing. Song paks have a super collection of folk, classical and holiday songs - something for everyone. Students never tire of this awesome app !

What a great way to introduce or build upon music note reading skills! After playing this app, classroom discussion of treble clef lines/spaces is a must. Makes so much more sense to the children after they have seen the staff in the ocean. We even sing the letter names as we play sometimes. I am fortunate to have 6 electric piano keyboards in my classroom. The carryover from app to piano is super. Students have

transferred the notes to staff paper to bring home and practice. How awesome is that !

This app was a godsend with my autistic students. Non vocal kids singing along with the penguin. Contacted the developer, became email buddies. He called from California and I test flighted a special ed version. Opened a great discussion in class for giving feedback - positive or negative - on online app purchases.