

Teacher Tips, Student page 40:

- Effective group music-making requires rhythmic precision. By now, students should be aware of the importance of maintaining a steady beat while playing a piece of music. As more complex rhythms are introduced, such as the dotted eighth and sixteenth note rhythms on student pages 40 and 41, students should be reminded to count carefully and to think mathematically while maintaining a sense of the beat.
- Point out to students that the *Sixteenth Note Scale Exercise* progresses through an ascending and descending D Major scale. When students have mastered the D Major scale, they will play more comfortably and will be able to concentrate on the rhythms to be played.
- In *Listen to the Mockingbird*, the rhythms in parts A and B are played at different times and complement one another. This will pose a challenge to students and will require precise counting and listening.

Activities, Student page 40:

- Review with students the definition of **sixteenth notes** provided on student page 40.
- Divide the class into two groups and have one group play the melody of *Sixteenth Note Scale Exercise* while the other group claps the rhythm indicated. Percussions (tapping with fingertips on the side of the guitar) can also be substituted for the clapping line.
- Have students complete the *Before You Play* checklist on student page 29 for *Listen to the Mockingbird*.
- To prepare students to play *Listen to the Mockingbird*, have them write in the counting in each part, and then practice each part on an open single string.
- Have students master both part A and part B of *Listen to the Mockingbird* before dividing into groups to play the duet.

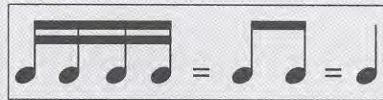
Interdisciplinary Studies, Student page 40:

- Read the following historical background for *Listen to the Mockingbird* to students:

Listen to the Mockingbird was written in 1855 by an American music publisher and composer named Septimus Winner (1827–1902). Winner was a largely self-taught musician, and by the age of 20 he had mastered the guitar, banjo, and violin.

One day Winner heard a young boy whistling the song of a mockingbird, and he was inspired to write a song based on the tune. This song was called *Listen to the Mockingbird*, and it became so popular that millions of copies of the song were sold in the United States and Europe within 50 years. Winner published the song under one of his pseudonyms, or pen names, Alice Hawthorne.

 = SIXTEENTH NOTES



A SIXTEENTH NOTE gets $\frac{1}{4}$ beat in $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, and $\frac{4}{4}$ time.




Sixteenth Note Scale Exercise


In the exercise below, write the counting. The counting for the first measure has been completed for you. As you play, count sixteenth notes aloud, carefully observing the right hand fingering indications.

m i m i m i m i m i m i m i m i

1 e & ah 2 e & ah 3 e & ah 4 e & ah

Clap: 

m i m i m i m i m i m i m i m i m i m i





Listen to the Mockingbird – Duet

Write the counting in each part, then perform this duet with your class or with a partner. Count the sixteenth notes carefully.

Listen to the Mockingbird

Alice Hawthorne (1827–1902)

A. 

B. 

