

## Key and key signature

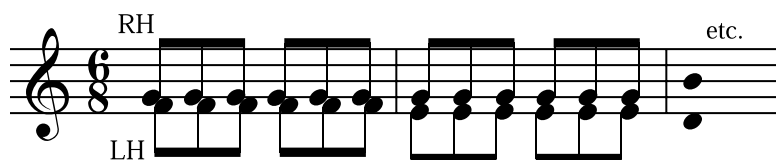
### *Review of major scales and learning about “key”*

**Teacher:** *Understanding key is a difficult concept.*

*It needs to be presented early and reinforced throughout the first few years of study.*

In Chapter 5 of the Theory Book, Volume A, your project was “A Funny Piece.”

The “Funny Piece” project told you to play *Chopsticks* and answer these questions:



*On what letter names does Chopsticks begin? \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_*

*Does Chopsticks use the notes of the F major scale \_\_\_\_ or the C major scale \_\_\_\_?*

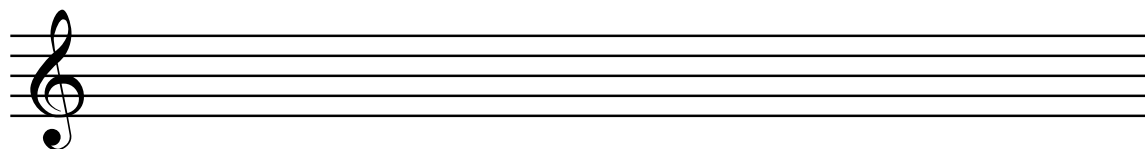
The next step in the project was to find those same scale degree numbers in the G major scale and play *Chopsticks* using the G major scale. You were reminded to use F#!

### *To carry the project further, follow these steps:*

On the piano, review the tetrachord pattern of whole-whole-half steps that create each part of the major scale, then form two tetrachords to create the F major scale.

*Will you use A# \_\_\_\_ or Bb \_\_\_\_?*

Write the notes here and write the letter names below the staff:



*Letter names:*    \_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_

*Again, write the scale degree numbers you use to start Chopsticks: \_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_.*

In the F major scale you just wrote, find those scale degrees; start on these notes and play the piece again.

- If you started LH on Bb and RH on C, your piece will sound right!

It will also be in the key of F major.

The first time you played the piece in Volume A, you were playing in the key of C major. When you started on C and D and used F#, you were playing in the key of G major. Now, you have played the piece in the key of F major.

- The “Funny Piece” project was designed to help you understand what it means “to play in the key of C” or “in the key of G or F.”