

Piano Baseball Questions

How to play Piano Baseball:

This game is most fun when played with two or more players or with two teams. Draw the outline of a baseball field on a chalkboard or large piece of poster. You can also set up a field using chairs or pillows to mark the bases. Just like in regular baseball, each player (or team) is up at bat until they get three strikes. Players choose which level of question they want to answer. First base questions are the easiest and home run questions are the most difficult. If using a drawing of a diamond, use sticky notes or other markers to advance around the field. If using chairs or pillows, players physically advance around the field. Set a time limit or pre-set number of innings. The player/team with the most runs wins! Add an extra challenge to the game by having participants create their own questions.

First Base

What do you press to make the piano play?	Keys
Name a famous composer who wrote music for the piano.	
What do you have to do to become a better piano player?	Practice
Why is it important to have good posture when playing the piano?	So that you will play well; not injure yourself
What color are piano keys?	Black and white
Why is it important not to set your drink on the piano?	Spilled water can damage both the inside and the outside of your piano.
What is a good reason to learn to play the piano?	
What are the names of the notes?	A, B, C, D, E, F, G
Besides learning your piece well, name one thing you can do to get ready for a recital.	Sleep well, eat right, drink lots of water, practice in front of an audience, wear comfortable clothes, etc.
Name one material that is used in making a piano.	Wood, metal, fabric (felt), leather, plastic, glue, varnish (paint) etc.

Visit the Piano Learning Center of the Piano Technicians Guild at www.ptg.org for more fun ways to learn about the piano.

Second Base

How many people would play a piano duet?	Two
How many black and white keys does a piano have?	88
Name another keyboard instrument that is similar to the piano.	Organ, harpsichord, accordion, etc.
Approximately how much does an upright piano weigh?	Between 400-700 pounds or more
What note do we consider to be in the middle of the keyboard?	Middle C
What do you call the tune of a musical piece?	The melody
What do you call a person who tunes a piano?	Piano tuner, piano technician
Name a musical style.	Classical, jazz, blues, rock, etc.
True or False. More homes have pianos than any other musical instrument.	True.
True or false. When you press on a piano key, a hammer jumps up and hits a string.	True.

Third Base

How many notes are in an octave?	8
Which type of piano has three legs?	Grand
What playing style means that you play each note separately from the next?	Staccato
When would you press on a sustaining pedal?	When you wanted a note or chord to last longer.
How many times a year should you have your piano tuned?	Two or more times a year
What is the purpose of the lid on a piano?	Protect the inside; affects the volume
What tool can be used to keep a steady beat when playing?	Metronome
Name one thing you can do to make sure your piano is protected from too much or too little humidity or big temperature changes?	Don't place the piano by an outside window or heating vent; check the humidity and temperature periodically; use a humidifier if needed, etc.

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Home Run

Who is considered to be the father of the modern piano?	Bartolomeo Cristofori
What are you doing when you are improvising?	Making up the music as you go.
What instruments usually play music written for a piano quartet?	Piano, violin, viola and cello
What's the difference between a harpsichord and piano?	A piano can play both loud and soft; a piano has an escapement (keeps the hammers from bouncing)
Approximately how much does an upright piano weigh?	Usually between 400-600 pounds
Name two differences between a grand piano and a vertical (upright) piano.	Size, length of strings, ways hammers move, etc.

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