

# Intermediate Rhythm for Little Ones

After your child is proficient with reading the Beginning Rhythms, you can begin teaching the Intermediate Rhythms. The Intermediate Rhythms introduce the half note and the whole note!



Ta-ah  
(Half Note)

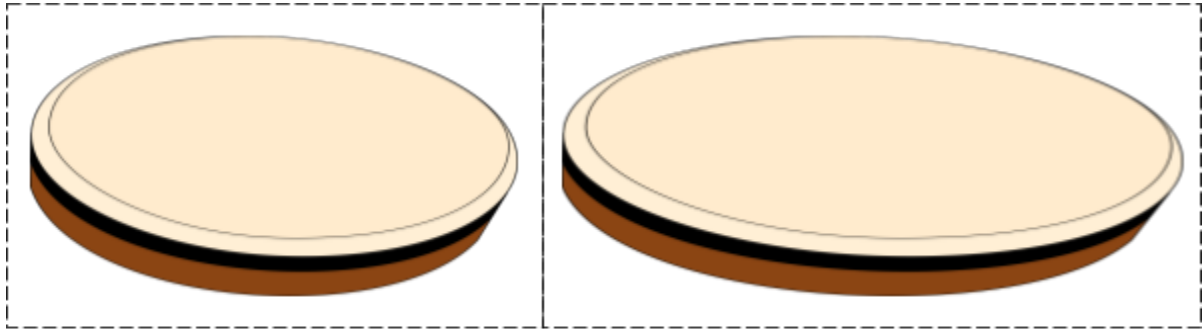


Ta-ah-ah-ah  
(Whole Note)

Use the posters in the Rhythm for Preschoolers and Early Elementary Children's Teaching Guide as a visual to help in teaching. Teach the rhythms similarly to how you teach your child animal sounds. You probably pointed to a picture of a pig and said something like, "The pig says, 'oink'. Can you say, 'oink?'" You can show the half note poster and say, "The half note says, 'ta-ah'. Can you say, 'ta-ah?'" Don't worry about your child saying the real names (half note, whole note) right now. Your child only needs to know the sounds to read the rhythms. He or she will probably learn the real names after some repetition anyway! Teach the whole note in the same way. You would say, "The whole note says, 'Ta-ah-ah-ah'."

Practice saying "ta-ah" and "ta-ah-ah-ah" with a steady beat pat. The half note gets two beats, so when practicing this with pats, make sure it gets 2 pats. 'Ta' gets one pat and 'ah' gets one pat to equal the two beats. The whole note gets four beats, so when practicing this with pats make sure it gets 4 pats. 'Ta' gets one pat, 'ah' gets another, 'ah' gets another, and 'ah' gets the last pat to equal to four beats. If your child has trouble with counting each beat, you can use your fingers to count the beats. For the half note, you could hold up one finger for 'ta' and a second finger for 'ah'. Your child would then be holding up two fingers like he or she would when counting to two. You can do the same with the whole note and four fingers.

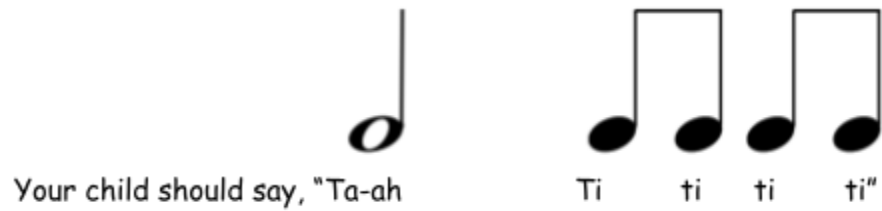
You can help your child cut out and match the following visuals to the half note and whole note posters. Later you can match these visuals with the flash cards.



Half Note  
"Ta-ah"

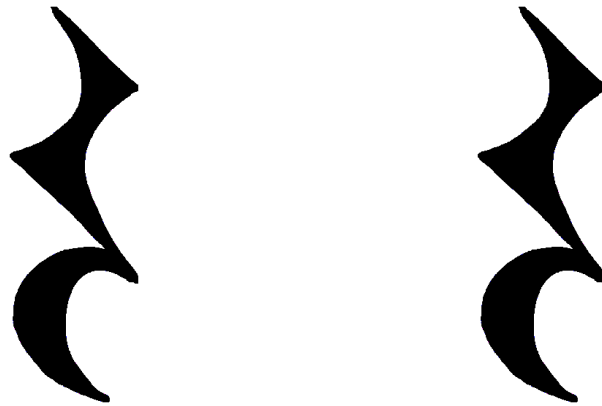
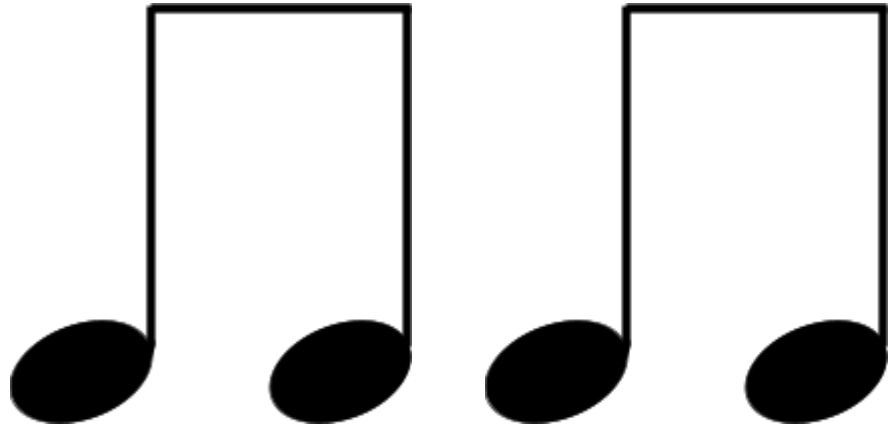
Whole Note  
"Ta-ah-ah-ah"

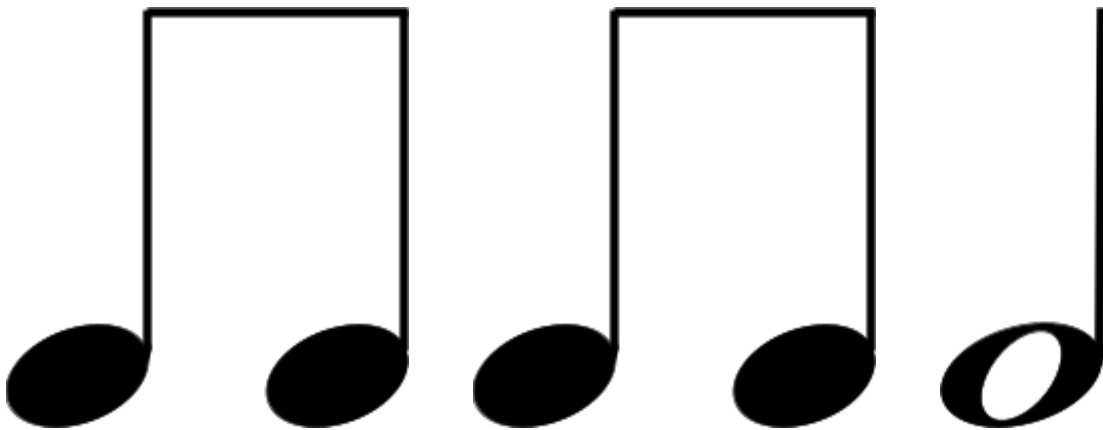
Once your child has mastered, "The half note says, 'Ta-ah,'" and, "The whole note says, 'Ta-ah-ah-ah,'" your child is ready to read the Intermediate Rhythm Flash Cards on this PDF. Below is an example of how your child should read one of the rhythms.



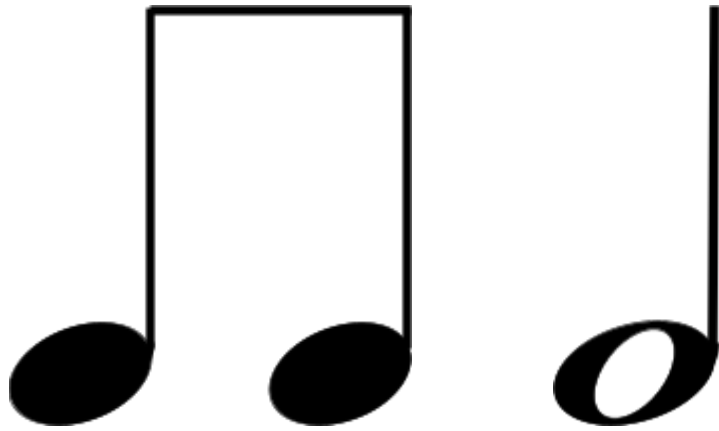
As your child becomes more comfortable reading rhythms, he or she can also play the rhythms as he or she reads them! You can use any child's instrument for this, or you can create your own instrument. Some easy instruments are pots and pans with wooden spoons for drums, a plastic container filled with dry rice or beans as a maraca, and rubber bands wrapped around a tissue box to pluck as a stringed instrument.



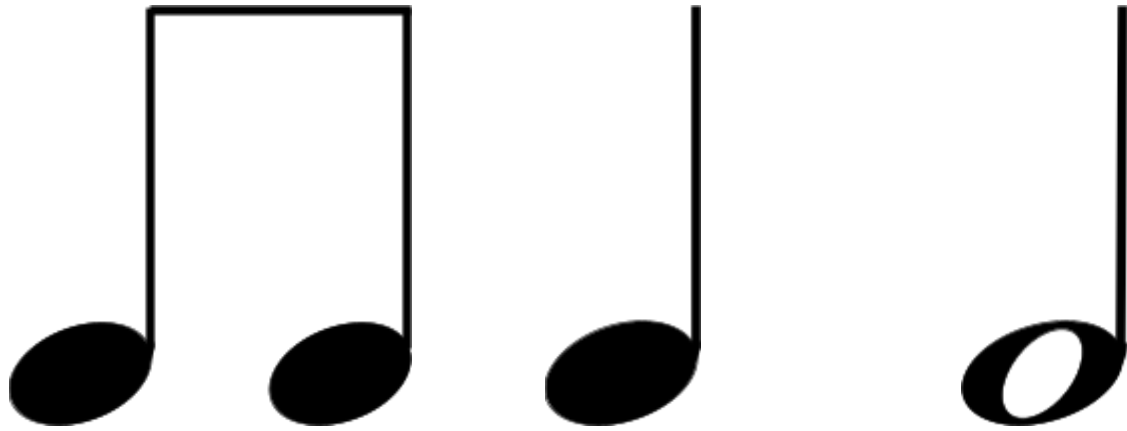


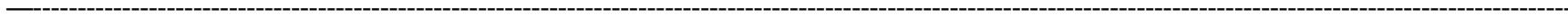


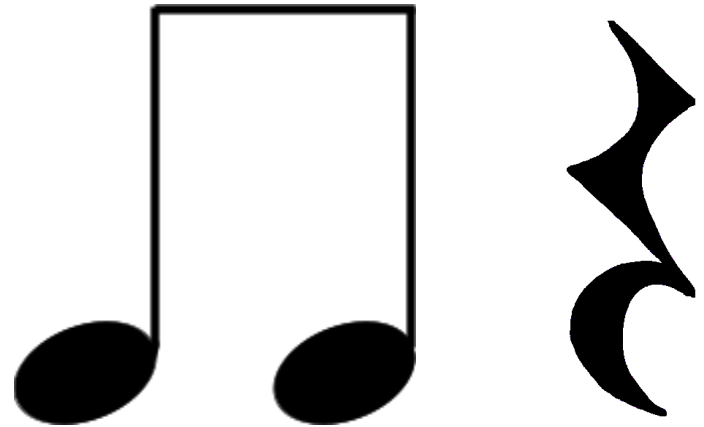
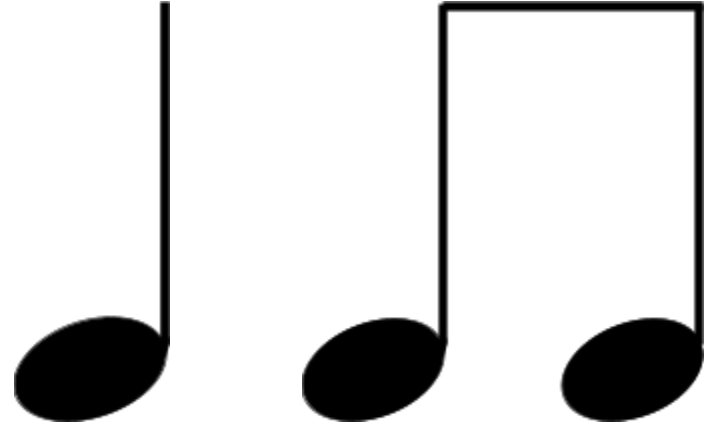










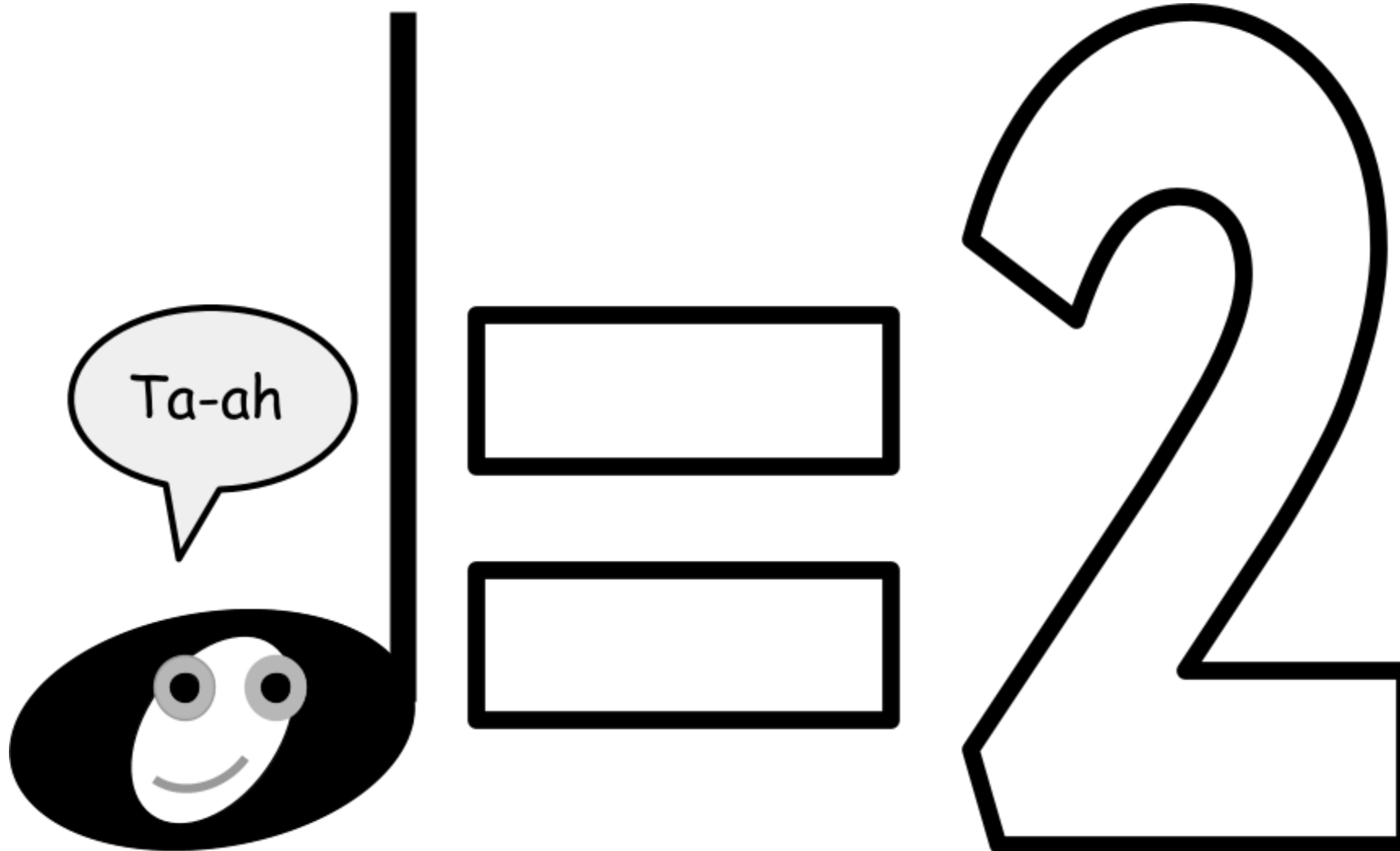




Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grown-ups, you can print and use these pages once, or you can print and laminate to reuse.

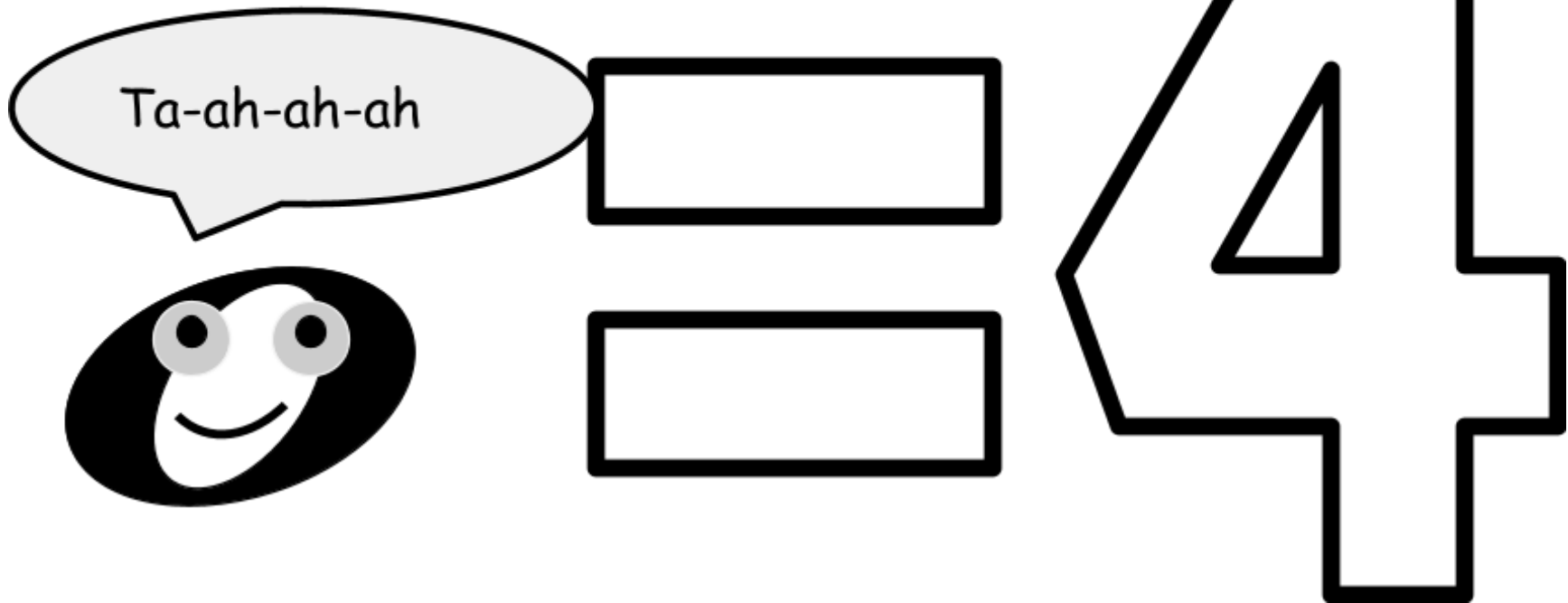
Color the number of the beats the musical symbol represents.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grown-ups, you can print and use these pages once, or you can print and laminate to reuse.

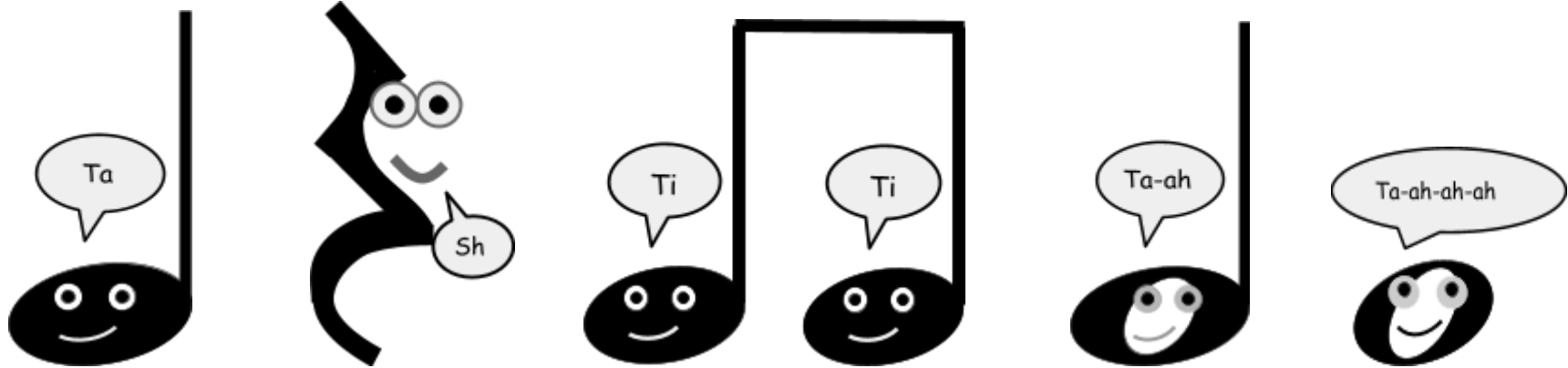
Color the number of the beats the musical symbol represents.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grown-ups, you can print and use these pages once, or you can print and laminate to reuse.

Draw a line to match the musical symbol to the number of beats it represents.



**1**

**2**

**1**

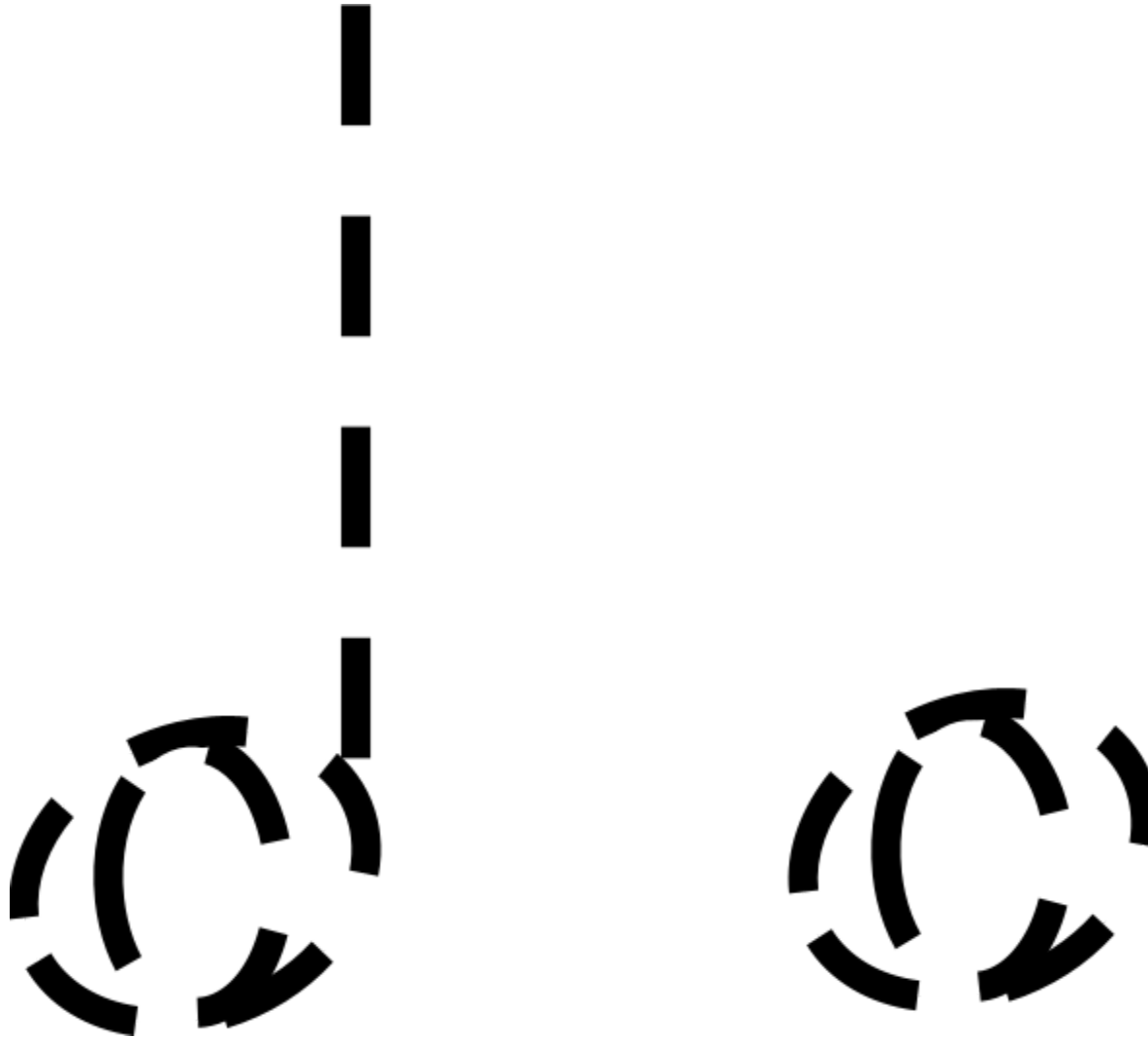
**4**

**1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grown-ups, you can print and use these pages once, or you can print and laminate to reuse.

Trace and color the music symbols.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grown-ups, you can print and use these pages once, or you can print and laminate to reuse.

Composing means to write music. You can cut out the musical notes and place one musical note in each of the three boxes below. It is your choice what order those musical notes will be placed in. That is composing!! Which box did you put the 2 beat Ta-ah note?

After you compose, can you read your musical composition?

4	4			



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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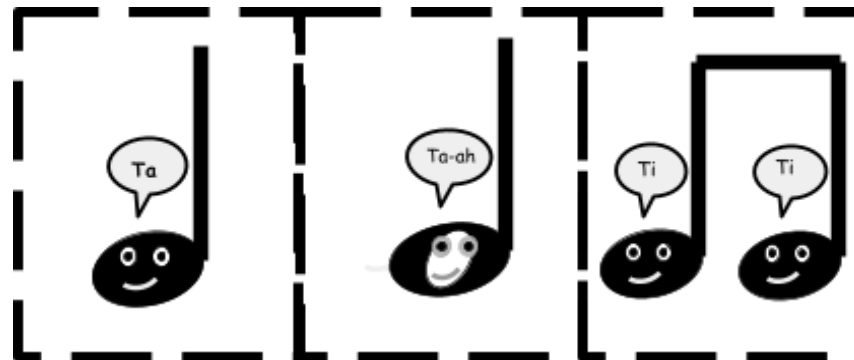
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4

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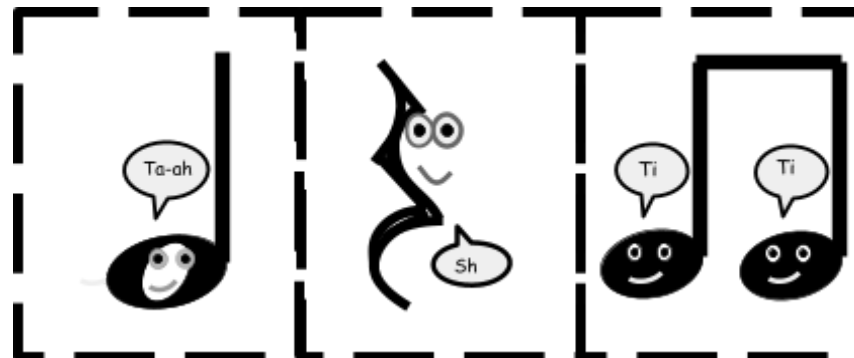
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4			



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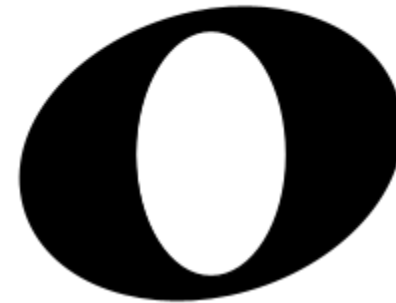
Use playdough to create the music notes on this playdough mat.

What sound does the  
half note make?



What colors did you use?

What sound does the  
whole note make?



What shapes did you make?