

# Grade 4

## Recorder Duets

A Parent's Guide for Teaching  
Soprano Recorder



**Oak Meadow**

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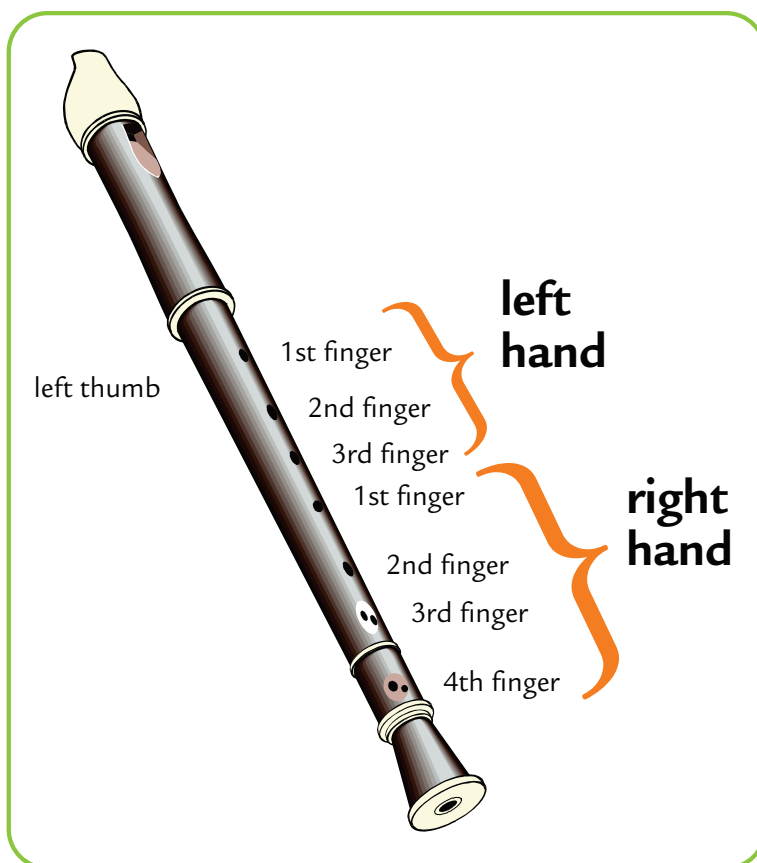
[oakmeadow.com](http://oakmeadow.com)



# Introduction

Welcome to *Recorder Duets*! We hope you find this collection of duets helpful in continuing the recorder studies you and your child have engaged in during previous years with the Oak Meadow curriculum. If you have not worked with this curriculum in the previous years, and have had no experience with the recorder, please begin with Oak Meadow's *Beginning Recorder*. This and the *Intermediate Recorder* and *Advanced Recorder* books introduce you to the recorder, teach you the notes, how to read music, and give you songs to play with your child. You do not need to complete the advanced book in order to start *Recorder Duets*, but you will need to know most of the notes taught there, and your child will need to have a grasp of reading music.

Playing duets is a wonderful opportunity to connect with your child. The single most important skill to develop in playing music together is the ability to listen to each other. Start each new song by discussing it a little, noting the time and key signature, and the speed that seems appropriate. Agree on a beat, and count out a measure (such as "one-two-three-four" in time) just before you start the piece. This way you will start together. You will quickly learn the importance of keeping time. You may then begin to discover how to interpret the song together—the feeling, rhythm, and dynamics of the piece. Strive for a sense that the piece is being played on one instrument. Once the notes are well established, eye contact may sometimes be helpful.



Sometimes recorders can vary in pitch ever so slightly, which can mar the sound of a piece. A trick for making sure your recorders are in absolute tune is to play the same note together for a long breath, listening carefully. Try to use the same amount of breath; if one person blows harder than the other, it will produce a sharper sound (or higher in pitch). If it seems as if one recorder is slightly higher in pitch, separate out the pieces of the recorder where they are attached ever so slightly to make it lower.

Squeeze the pieces back together more tightly for a higher pitch. Sometimes just a hair's width is all that is needed.

We hope you will have fun!





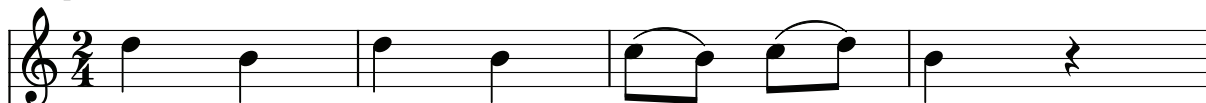
# Music

## Lullaby

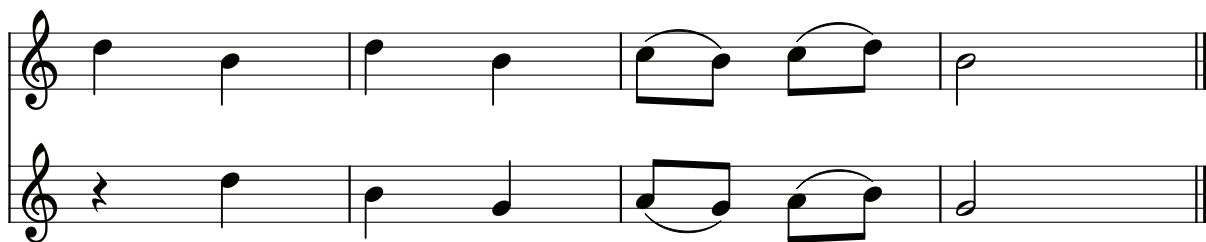
German

*Tenderly*

Soprano I



Soprano II



# Music for a Thousand Autumns

Chinese Folk Song

*Slowly and Gently*

Soprano I

Musical notation for Soprano I, first system. Treble clef, common time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes and eighth notes with beams, ending with a fermata.

Soprano II

Musical notation for Soprano II, first system. Treble clef, common time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes and eighth notes with beams, ending with a fermata.

Musical notation for Soprano I and II, second system. Two staves. Soprano I has a fermata over the first measure. Both parts continue with quarter and eighth notes.

Musical notation for Soprano I and II, third system. Two staves. Both parts continue with quarter and eighth notes.

Musical notation for Soprano I and II, fourth system. Two staves. Both parts continue with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line.

# Au Clair de la Lune

French

Soprano I

Soprano II

The musical score is written for two soprano recorders. It is in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The piece consists of four systems of two staves each. The first staff of each system is for Soprano I and the second is for Soprano II. The melody for Soprano I is a simple, flowing line, while the Soprano II part provides a harmonic accompaniment. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the fourth system.