### **Preface**

When composing pieces for young students, I like to write pieces that I would have enjoyed playing at an early age or teaching to my younger students. Many of my favorites for playing and teaching were written by Canadian composers.

When I first started composing, much of what I wrote arose from improvisation at the piano with some specific musical features in mind. Titles often came later. More recently, I tend to choose interesting age-appropriate subjects as starting points for inspiration and compose a group of pieces around them.

**Toy Collection** (originally published by the Frederick Harris Music Co. Limited 2015) is an ideal example. My goal was to compose pieces about "timeless toys" -- toys that would have appeal today and for many years to come. I figured that any toys that were popular when my siblings and I were young and are still popular today would likely be around for many more years.

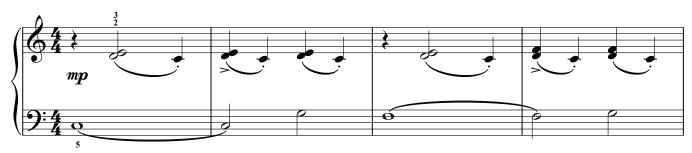
Teresa Richert

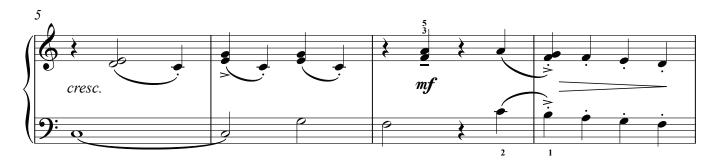
Cover illustration by William Kimber

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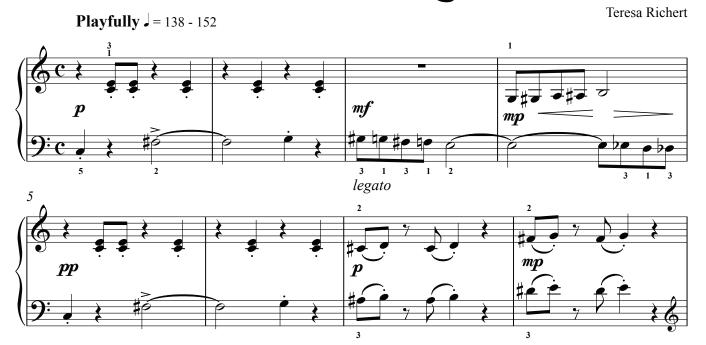
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### **Blocks**





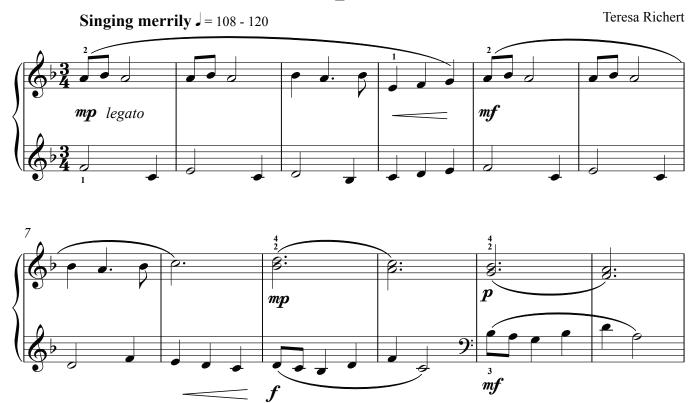
### Little Red Wagon



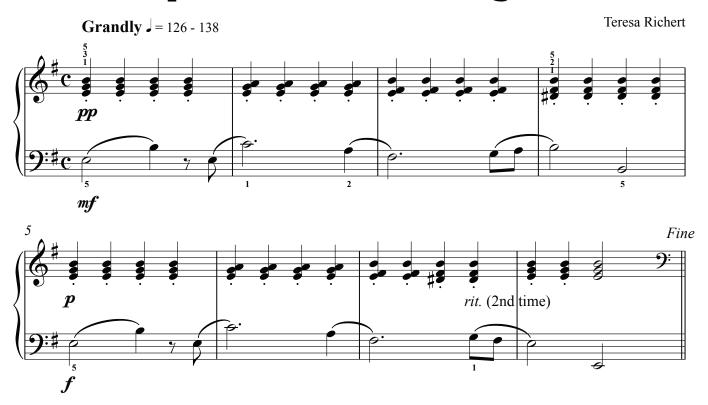
#### **Doll House**



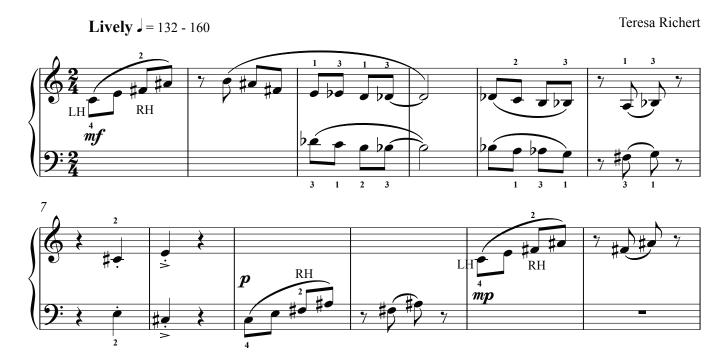
### **Teddy Bear**



### Super Hero Action Figure



#### **Video Game Adventure**



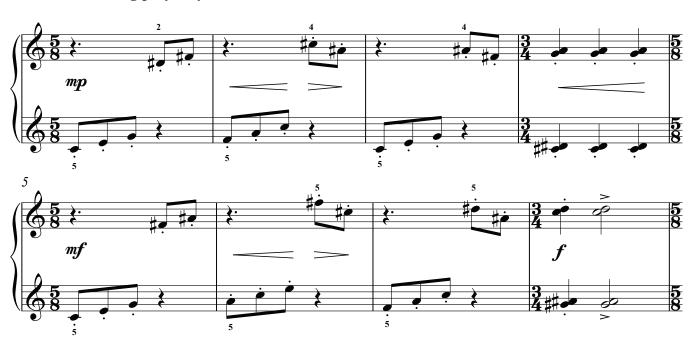
### **Fire Truck**





## **Bouncing Ball**

**Bouncing playfully**  $\downarrow = 132 - 160$ 



### Racing Cars

**With energy** J. = 100 - 120



### **Plush Toy Parade**



### **Notes for Teachers**

#### Features of the Pieces

**Blocks** (marked Determined) harmonic intervals, clusters, slurs, staccato, accents, *tenuto*, damper pedal, *ritardando*, 8va, crescendo, dynamic range pp to f

**Little Red Wagon** (marked Playfully) harmonic 3rds, chromaticism, *legato*, *staccato*, slurs, accents, *fermata*, *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f* 

**Doll House** (marked Dreamily) crossovers, syncopated pedalling, *una corda* optional, *tenuto*, *ritardando*, dynamic range *pp* to *mp* 

**Teddy Bear** (marked Singing Merrily) triple meter with dotted rhythms, RH and LH melody, slurs, *legato*, *ritardando*, *diminuendo*, *crescendo*, opportunity for voicing in RH, dynamic range *pp* to *f* 

**Super Hero Action Figure** (marked Grandly) LH melody, slurs, *staccato*, D.C. al Fine, *ritardando*, rolled chord, *fermata*, damper pedal, *crescendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f* 

**Video Game Adventure** (marked Lively) duple meter, whole tone and chromatic scales, melody shared between hands, slurs, *staccato*, accents, *fermata*, *ritardando*, dynamic range *pp* to *ff* 

**Fire Truck** (marked With Excitement) compound meter, chromatic scale, slurs, *legato*, *crescendo*, dynamic range *p* to *ff* 

**Toy Train** (marked Happily) harmonic intervals, D.C. al Fine, *fermata*, *staccato*, *legato*, accents, *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f* 

**Bouncing Ball** (marked Bouncing Playfully) mixed meter, changing meter, *staccato*, accents, *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f* 

**Racing Cars** (marked With Energy) compound meter, *ritardando*, *a tempo*, *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f* 

**Plush Toy Parade** (marked Marching) swing rhythm, triplet, grace notes, accents, *staccato*, slurs, *fermata*, 8vb, opportunity for voicing in RH, *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, dynamic range pp to ff