



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## Back It Up!

HAYDN *Menuetto al rovescio* from Piano Sonata in A Major, Hob. XVI:26

### COUNTING IN MUSIC

The minuet is a type of dance most popular in France and England in the 17th century. Like a waltz, a minuet is typically in **triple meter**, or beat groupings of 3.

**Meter** is the rhythmic pattern in music created by the combination of strong and weak beats in different groupings. It is how we "feel" music. In triple meter, there are three beats in a group, or a measure. Beat 1 is the strong beat, and beats 2 and 3 are weaker beats.

**1 2 3    1 2 3    1 2 3**

Meter has a strong connection to the **time signature** of the music. In fact, the time signature tells us in what kind of meter the music is written. Meter can also help us identify what the time signature might be.

### TIME SIGNATURE

We know that in a minuet, there are three beats per group, or measure. Which time signatures have three beats per measure (which makes them in triple meter)? Circle the correct answers.

**9**  
**8**

**3**  
**8**

**2**  
**4**

**4**  
**4**

**3**  
**4**

**5**  
**4**

**4**  
**8**

**3**  
**2**

What does the top number of the time signature mean? \_\_\_\_\_

What does the bottom number of the time signature mean? \_\_\_\_\_