



NAME _____

DATE _____

Piano Gymnastics: Finger Workout DEBUSSY Etude for 8 Fingers

WHAT DO YOU HEAR?



An etude is a study, which means it was written to be an exercise for the fingers at the piano. The composer Claude Debussy wrote this etude to be played with only eight fingers, without using the thumbs.

Buddy explores the role of the thumbs in performing everyday movements. Try it yourself!

1. Find an object that you can easily pick up with one hand (make sure it's not anything breakable). Now try picking up the same object with one hand, without using your thumb.

Were you able to do it? How did it feel?

2. On the line below, write your name without using your thumb.

Was it challenging? How did it feel?

LISTEN CAREFULLY

Nathan uses a cool piano technique, where he glides his hand across several keys on the keyboard. This is called a **glissando**, and it is used to play a fast and smooth series of notes. See if you can spot it in the music!

Did the music stay in one place, or move up and down the keyboard?

Did Nathan use his thumbs? _____

Describe the music. Was it calm and relaxed, or light and like a whirlwind? What did it make you feel?
