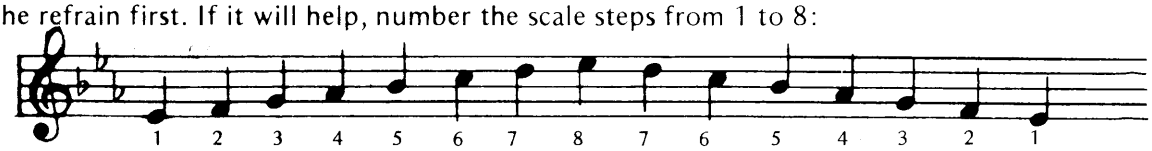
LONG AGO AND FAR AWAY

Carols and hymns from all over the world tell the familiar events of the Christmas story; but "Long Ago and Far Away" includes in its refrain the *reason* for God's action in coming among us! What verbs in the last line give the reason? _____

With "quick arithmetic," figure out that this 14th century carol is approximately _____ years old. Why then, would verbs in the *present tense* (comes, loves, saves, frees) be used instead of verbs in the *past tense* (came, loved, saved and freed)? _____

You're very close to the most remarkable secret of Christmas! *The coming of Christ is re-experienced each time persons re-discover the meaning of God's love among us.* And through the discovery, there is a "new birth" which saves and frees us to participate in the miracle of love. . . even centuries after the original nativity event!

Sing the refrain first. If it will help, number the scale steps from 1 to 8:



After singing the scale steps by numbers several times, see if you can match these phrases expressed in scale steps to their corresponding portion of the carol:

(1) 1-55555876-587655 (♮) 45 (2) 53-1235432311-123 (3) 123345434221-53

Make a list of carols in $\frac{6}{8}$ time. Why is $\frac{6}{8}$ rhythm a good choice for most of the carols on your list?

_____

_____

Do you remember that in $\frac{6}{8}$ time, eighth notes receive one full count and that there are six full counts per measure? Finish writing the correct counts under these notes:

Why would three full counts be used for each syllable in the word "Jesus?" _____

_____

Contrasts in music help emphasize important climaxes. Write a word which would show how you might contrast with the following:

FAST _____ CRESCENDO _____ FF _____

LEGATO _____ EVEN _____ HIGH _____

And the most unique contrast of all – in a world filled with "HATE," is that the time of Christmas should come again and again to bring us "LOVE."

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