


## SHARPS and FLATS - EXPLANATION

**SHARPS and FLATS** illustrates the order in which sharp (#) and flat (b) signs appear in key signatures.

The upper story follows the arrow from left to right. It illustrates the order of sharps. The **F**ox chases the **C**at through the **G**ate, past the **D**og, under the **A**pple, to the **E**lf chasing the **B**utterfly.




EXAMPLE 1:



To the left, is the key signature of **D major** as it appears in standard musical notation. It has 2 sharps - **F#** and **C#**. The graphic representation (above) of these 2 sharps in the key of **D major** is: The **F**ox chases the **C**at.

EXAMPLE 2:




This is the key signature of **B major**. It has 5 sharps - **F#**, **C#**, **G#**, **D#** and **A#**. The **F**ox chases the **C**at through the **G**ate, past the **D**og, under the **A**pple.



The lower story follows the arrow from right to left. It illustrates the order of flats. The **B**ee chases the **E**lf, under the **A**pple, past the **D**og, through the **G**ate, to the **C**at, playing checkers with the **F**ox.

EXAMPLE 3:



This is the key signature of **Ab major**. It has 4 flats - **Bb**, **Eb**, **Ab**, and **Db**. The **B**ee chases the **E**lf, under the **A**pple, past the **D**og.