Printing Instructions when printing from Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Click on **File**

Then select **Print**

The print dialogue box will appear.

Under **Print Range**

Check the **Pages** button and type in **2-5**,

Click on the **OK** button.

Return the printed pages to the paper tray (refer to your printer specifications to insert paper face up or face down when printing double-sided). Repeat the steps above **EXCEPT** this time you will print pages **6-9** AND you must check the box to **Reverse pages**.

Your pages should come out of the printer ready to be folded in half and secured with three staples on the left margin.

All printers are different and this is a general guideline. You may need to experiment to achieve the desired end result.
Johann Sebastian Bach

The Story of the Boy Who Sang in the Streets

This book was made by

STATUE OF BACH AT EISENACH.
Johann Sebastian Bach

The Story of the Boy Who Sang in the Streets
Read these facts about Sebastian Bach. Then, using your own words, write a story about him on pages 11 and 12.

1. Full name: Johann Sebastian Bach.
2. Born 1685, died 1750.
3. As a little boy he sang in the streets, begging from door to door.
4. His father and mother died when he was ten years old and Bach went to live with his brother.
5. He took his first position when he was seventeen.
6. He used to walk long distances to hear famous organists, one of whom was named Buxtehude.
7. He could play the organ, clavichord, violin, and other stringed instruments.
8. He wrote music for the voice (solo and chorus) and for many different instruments.
9. He never met his fellow countryman, Handel.
10. Bach copied lots of music because printed music was dear in his day.
11. He was Cantor of the Thomas School for many years.
12. Once he visited Frederick the Great at Potsdam.
13. For his little son, Friedmann, he wrote a book of *Little Preludes*.

The house that Johann Sebastian Bach was born in is in the town of Eisenach, Germany. It looks very much the same today as it did when Sebastian was a little boy. Many people go there to visit this house because the little boy grew to be a famous man.

In the same town in which Sebastian was born there stands on the top of a hill a very famous castle built many hundreds of years ago.

This castle is called the Wartburg.

As a boy little Sebastian used to climb the hill with his friends, and they, no doubt, had a happy time playing about the castle grounds. In one of its great halls the minstrels of Germany held their Song Contests.
Sebastian Bach had a very large family, twenty children altogether. Two of them studied music faithfully with their father. One was Friedmann, for whom the father wrote a book called *Little Preludes*. Friedmann's brother, Philipp Emanuel Bach, was a very fine clavichord player. He wrote a book about music and composed many pieces.

Sebastian Bach died in 1750 at the age of sixty-five.

This is the way Bach wrote his name.

If you know a boy who is about twenty years old you may say to him, Bach was as old as you are when Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston.

And although there was this difference of twenty years or so in their ages, we may think of them at work in the world at the same time. You must remember that all men like Franklin and Bach who became famous did so by working very hard.

Franklin, too, was born very poor. Once he walked the streets of Philadelphia with a loaf of bread under each arm. But by being faithful in all he did he became the friend of all his countrymen and of kings and queens besides.
Bach Quiz

1. In what year did Bach die?

2. Name an American who was alive at the same time.

3. What famous castle can be seen from the streets of Eisenach?

4. What other great German composer lived in Bach's time?

5. What instruments could Bach play?

6. For what purpose did Bach travel from place to place, as a boy?

7. What was the name of Sebastian's father?

8. Were any of Bach's children musical?

9. What music by Bach have you heard?
When Sebastian was old enough he used to travel by foot, just as the minstrels did; his purpose was to go to hear fine organ players.

Little Sebastian's father was named Johann Ambrosius Bach. He, too, was a musician, just as other family members had been for many years.

When Sebastian was ten years old his father and mother died. Sebastian went to live with his brother, whose home was a few miles away.

His brother provided him with music lessons, and he improved so rapidly that he used to beg to be allowed to play the pieces from a big book in the library.

But the brother refused him this pleasure. However, little Sebastian was eager to learn all the music he could find, so he used to sit up on moonlight nights and copy these pages while his brother was asleep.

THE END

Turn the page to review interesting facts about Bach and complete two fun activities.
There was another famous man who was almost exactly Sebastian's age. He composed an Oratorio that is loved by many people. It is sung in cities and towns all over the world, particularly at Christmas time.

The composer's name is George Frideric Handel and his famous Oratorio was first sung in the Irish city of Dublin in 1742.

At that time Sebastian Bach was living in Leipsic and had been for many years at the head of the Thomas School. He was known as its Cantor. Bach worked very hard here to supply music for several of the Leipsic churches, and he worked so well that his fame spread until it reached the ears of the Emperor.

Frederick the Great was also a musician and composer. So he invited Sebastian Bach to visit him at his castle. There were many people present, but Sebastian Bach was the principal guest. He played on many of the Emperor's fine pianos. When he reached home again he composed a musical work and dedicated it to the Emperor.

The kind of a piano that Sebastian Bach played on was not called a piano in his day. It was called a clavier or clavichord.

Some day you may study a collection of pieces by Bach which were written for this instrument and was called *The Well Tempered Clavichord*.

This is the kind of piano, or clavichord, that Bach used.

And here is the beginning of the very first piece in the collection in Bach's handwriting.
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