Determing Parallel Key Signatures

PRACTICE DRILL

By tweaking a couple of notes in the major scale, you can form a minor scale. *Parallel Keys* are a major and a minor key that share the same tonic (they both have the same 1st scale degree.) So for example, C major's parallel minor key is C minor. Easy enough, right? Same tonic. And now, to figure out the key signature for C minor (if it's not memorized yet...), grab the key signature of its relative major key, Eb, which has 3 flats. How'd we get the relative major key? By going *up* 3 half steps. Get used to switching back and forth between relative major and minor. To get the relative minor of a major key, go *down into minor land* 3 half steps. To get the relative major of a minor key, go *up into happy major land* 3 half steps.

In this exercise, a major or minor key is given. Figure out its parallel key. Write the names of the keys underneath the staff and write the key signatures above.

