Form and Function: Ukulele and the Blues Form

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Papa's Got a Brand New Bag
Brown, James (1965). Papa's Got a Brand New Bag Part I [Recorded by James Brown]. On Papa's Got a Brand New Bag [mp3 file]. Arthur Smith Studios, Charlotte, NC: King.

(Preparation) Utilize movement to introduce the blues form
- Find the macro- and micro- beat with pats
- Establish pulse for activity
- Present visual:
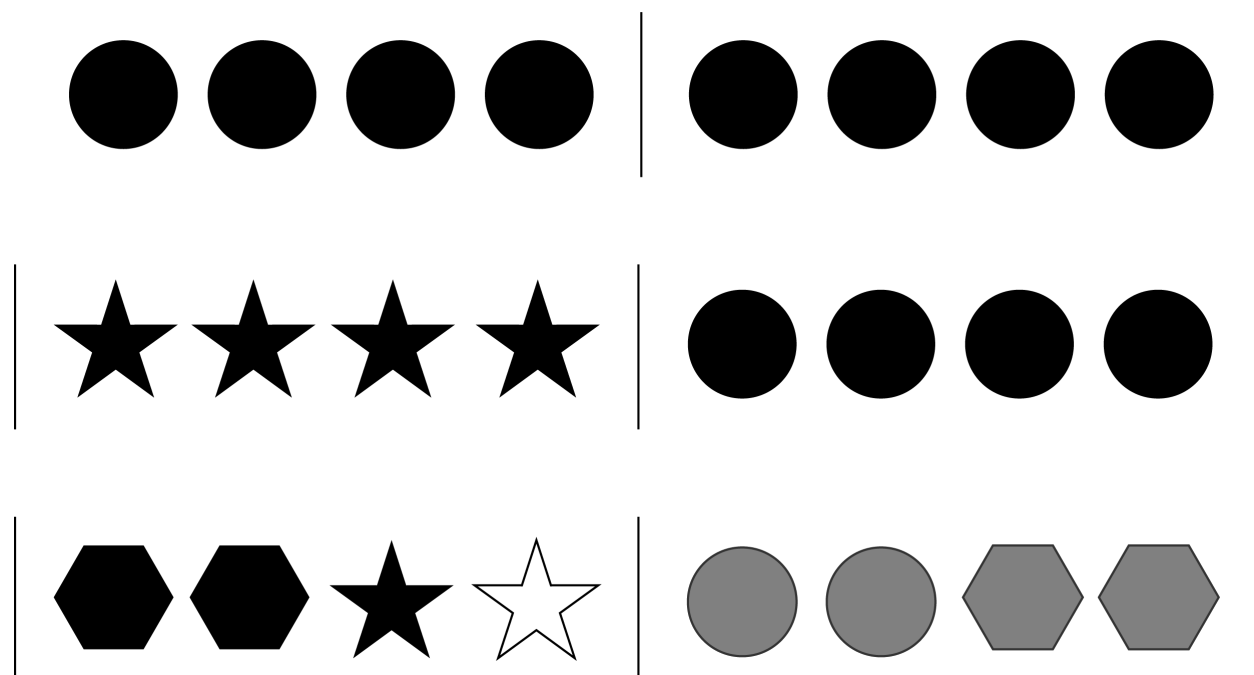
- Model BP on pulse
  - circles as right step out
  - stars as lap pats
  - pentagons as wave arms above head (lt. then rt.)
- Last measure (gray) – circles as "fast feet;" pentagons as "circle with arms"
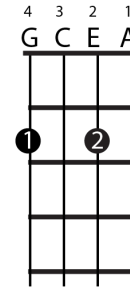- Lead through movement exploration
  - New way to move feet; lap; arms

- In small groups, students create own movement for circles, stars, and pentagons
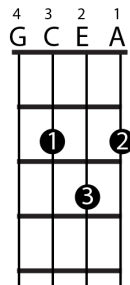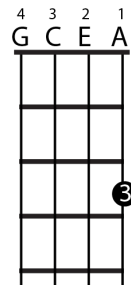 - Share out

I	**IV**	**V**
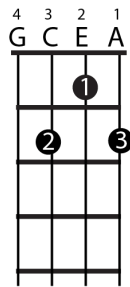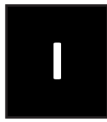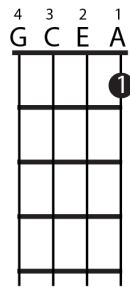
G7 Chord   C7 Chord   D7 Chord
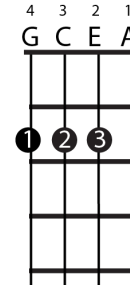
G Chord   C Chord   D Chord

Blues Form
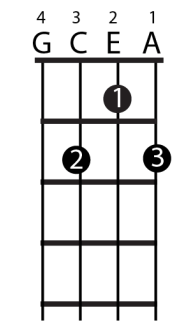
G7	G7	G7	G7
C7	C7	G7	G7
D7	C7	G7	(D7)

Transfer movement to ukulele chords
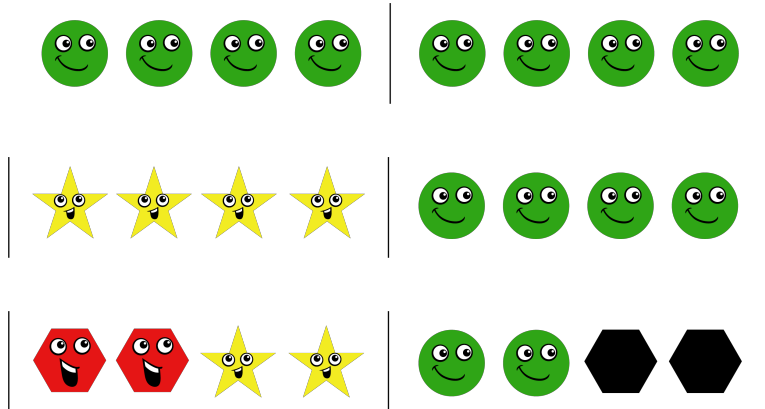Blues in G *(Same blues form as the Papa's Got a Brand New Bag)*
King, Riley & Bihari, Jules (1998). Blues in G [Recorded by B.B. King]. On Blues on the Bayou
[mp3 file]. Dockside Studio, Los Angeles, CA: MCA Records.

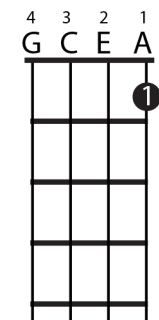Introduce G7 chord (circles)

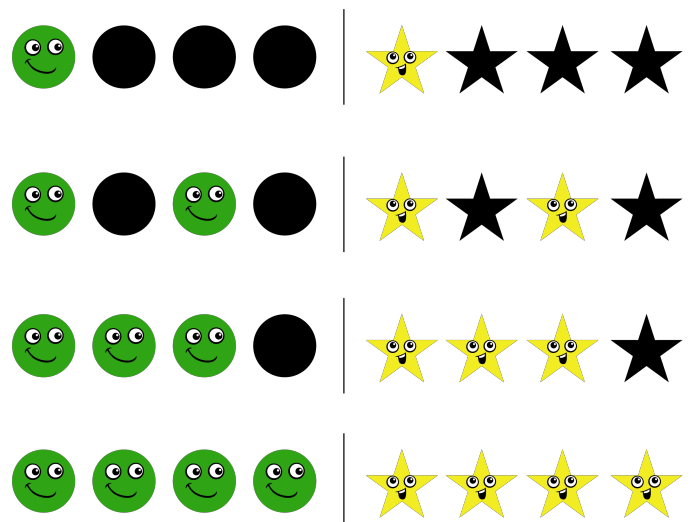G7 Chord

- Students play only the circles

- Students play G (green circles) | Teacher plays C7 (yellow stars) and D7 (red hexagon)
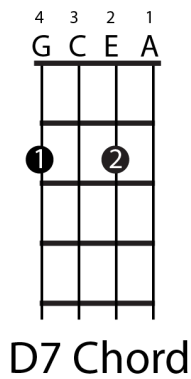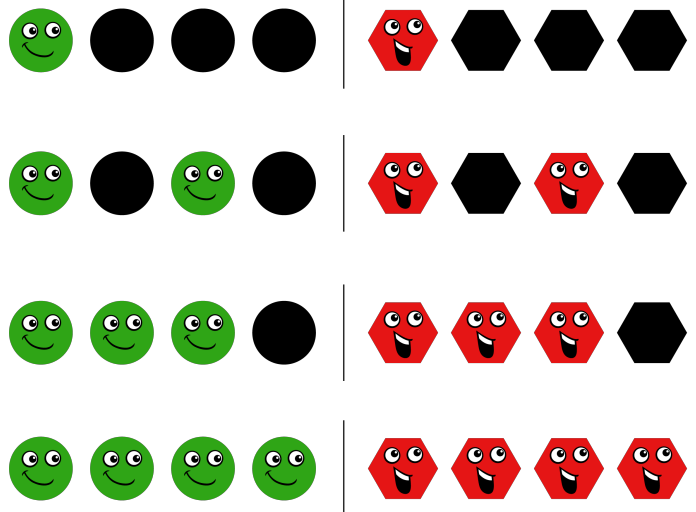
Introduce C7 (stars)

C7 Chord

- Practice transition from G to C7
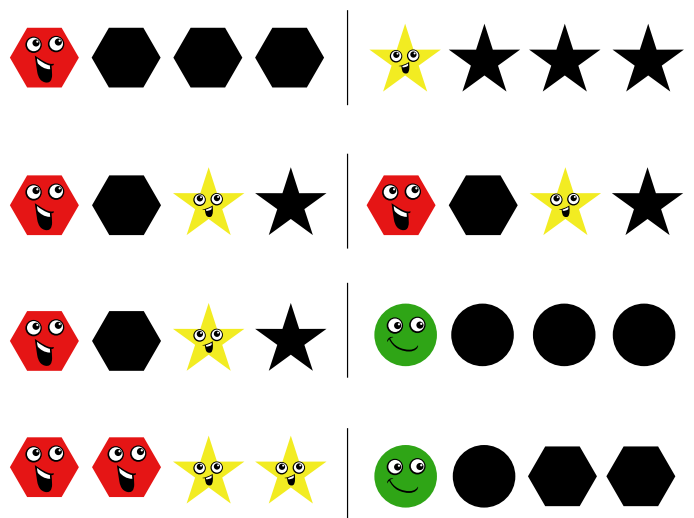
Introduce D7 (hexagon)

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    4  3  2  1
    G  C  E  A
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D7 Chord

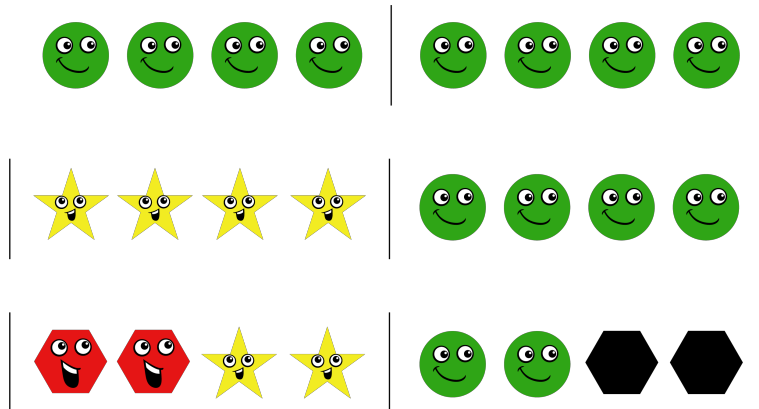- Practice transition from G7 to D7

Identifying focus patterns

- Practice transition from D7 (red) to C7 (yellow) to G (green)

Play complete form

Add recording (optional)

EXTENSION IDEAS:
- Move away from using a recording and encourage your students to improvise!
- Use a blues pentatonic scale for the melody on a barred instrument or recorder as the ukulele plays the blues progression

G Blues Pentatonic Scale

E G A B♭ B D E G