

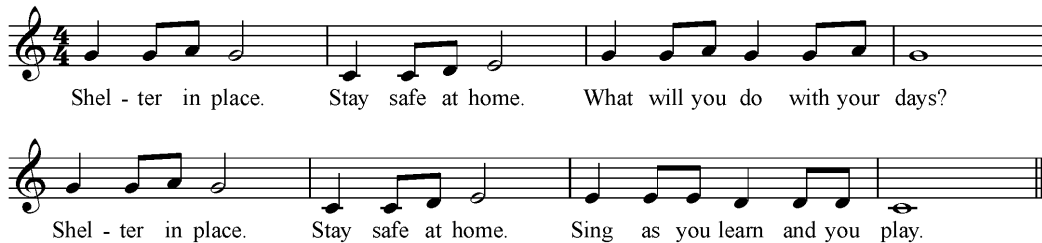
A Free Gift from

# MUSIC IS ELEMENTARY®

We are sending you love and appreciation during these challenging days as we all learn to live our lives in the midst of the Corona virus. Roger's written a new lesson specifically for you to share with your students during these days of distance learning. This lesson plan is designed for maximum flexibility. Use it in whatever way supports you and your students in connecting and nurturing one another through music making.

## Shelter in Place

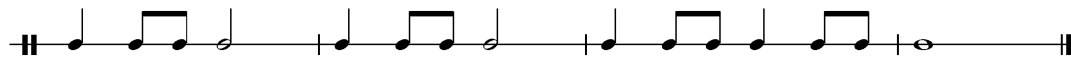
Roger Sams



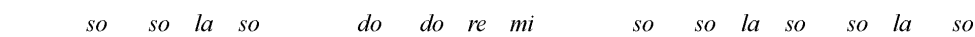
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### Teach the Song:

- Right off the bat you've got a choice point. Do you want to teach the song using literacy-based processes or do you want to simply teach the song by rote. Either might be your best choice depending on any number of factors. Please cut yourself some slack and know that you're not going to be teaching exactly the same way from a distance than you did when you gathered students together in your classroom. If you're going to use literacy processes, follow these steps.
- Students read the rhythm.



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*so so la so do do re mi mi mi re re re do*

- ## Compose with Rhythmic Building Blocks

- For example:





- Model creating an eight-beat ostinato by arranging four rhythmic building block cards.
- After you've created and modeled your ostinato you can take this lesson multiple directions.
  - You might use this speech ostinato as a contrasting section, creating ABA form with the song. (Then this could easily become a huge rondo when you start working with your students' creations.)
  - You might use this speech ostinato as an accompaniment to singing.
  - You might add movement, turning it into a speech and movement ostinato.
  - You might transfer this ostinato to an untuned percussion instrument and use this UTP ostinato as an accompaniment for the song.
- Once you've modeled the process, send the students off to create their own ostinati. You might have them send you video performances of their creations or have them come to your next digital class and share their creations with each other live. If you're feeling extra-fancy you might work with one of the apps that allows you to layer music and create layered ostinati of the students' creations. You decide how much effort you're going to put into what you do with the student creations. This could simply be a wonderful opportunity for the students to create and share with one another or you could turn this into one of those snazzy videos that administrators (and all of us) are loving these days with your distance learning ensemble.
- Please remember that everyone is making life work the best they can these days, including you. Take these ideas and adapt them in whatever way best supports you and your students. The most important thing you're doing these days is connecting with your students in love. Love on them as best you can and know that the best you got is good enough!