



Musical Explorers

Presented by SAVANNAH MUSIC FESTIVAL



Student Guide Pages

2022-2023

Musical Explorers Song

Every song tells a story. Every tune tells a tale.
 Every rhythm has a reason. Don't you want to know?
 Don't you want to know what makes the music go?
 Come along and see. Make your discovery.

I can sing it.



I can say it.



I can dance it.



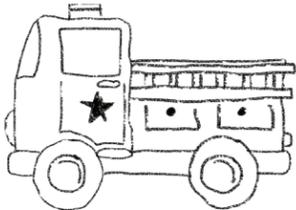
I can play it.



I can go explore the world of music at my door.
 My city and my neighborhood, singing songs and feeling good.
 I can know what makes the music grow.
 I can know what makes the music go!

Explore the Sounds of Our City

Music is everywhere! Let's go on a sound exploration. All you need are your ears. You can use this explorer's journal to record what you hear, including car horns and sirens, people singing, dogs barking, and even silence.

What did you hear?	When and where?
	<p>on my street going to school</p>

Discover Music in Everyday Objects

Music is waiting to be found in everyday objects!



Experiment and see what kinds of sounds you can make with these objects.



What other objects can you find that make interesting musical sounds?

Create a Postcard

Use the space below to draw or paste pictures of some of your favorite things about your neighborhood. Then write a message to one of our Musical Explorers artists describing your neighborhood.

Greetings from ...

Dear _____



(Artist's name)
c/o Savannah Music
Festival
200 E. Saint Julian St.
Savannah/GA 31401

Your friend,

Musical Explorers



Around the World Map

We can hear all different kinds of music in our community. This fall, our artists are visiting us from around the Southeast. Which of their cities have you visited?

Bluegrass
Travelers Rest, SC

Opera
Atlanta, GA

African-American Spirituals and Gospel
Savannah, GA

Meet David and Tabitha!

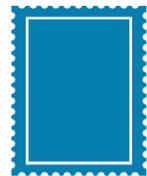


Hey there, Musical Explorers!

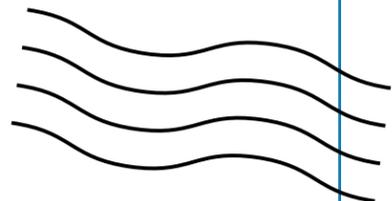
We are David and Tabitha, and we play and sing a style of music called bluegrass. We learned bluegrass by playing with our families and others at festivals and in jam sessions. Some of the songs we play are almost a hundred years old, or even older! The great thing about bluegrass songs is that everyone is welcome to play and sing together - no matter how young you are! We can't wait for you to join our bluegrass jam in December!

See you at the concert,

David and Tabitha



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We asked David and Tabitha ...

How did you become a bluegrass duo?

David: We met playing in separate bands at a bluegrass festival. Tabitha is from Ireland, and she invited me to visit after the festival. That's when we started playing together. We now have our own band called "The Foreign Landers."

Who are your favorite bluegrass musicians?

Tabitha: There are so many to choose from. I am inspired by Alison Kraus and Union Station, Béla Fleck, Earl Scruggs, and John Hartford.
David: I am a big fan of Nickel Creek, Punch Brothers, Tony Rice, Sam Bush, Sierra Hull, and Adam Steffey.

What draws you to bluegrass music?

Tabitha: We love going to bluegrass festivals and getting to experience the community around the music. It's based on people who love the music and love collaborating. You can play with all types of musicians, from professional to beginner.

What is your favorite memory of bluegrass music?

David: I remember one moment when Michael Cleveland was playing with his band, I must have been five. I remember thinking "If he can do that, then I can do it." We both have memories of growing up and spending time with our families at festivals.

How Bluegrass Got Its Name

Follow the A-A-B-B rhyme scheme to write lyrics about how we think bluegrass got its name.

Here is a verse as an example:

I wonder how bluegrass gets its name
 I know the songs aren't all the same
 Could it be the color blue?
 Are the stories in the songs all true?

A _____

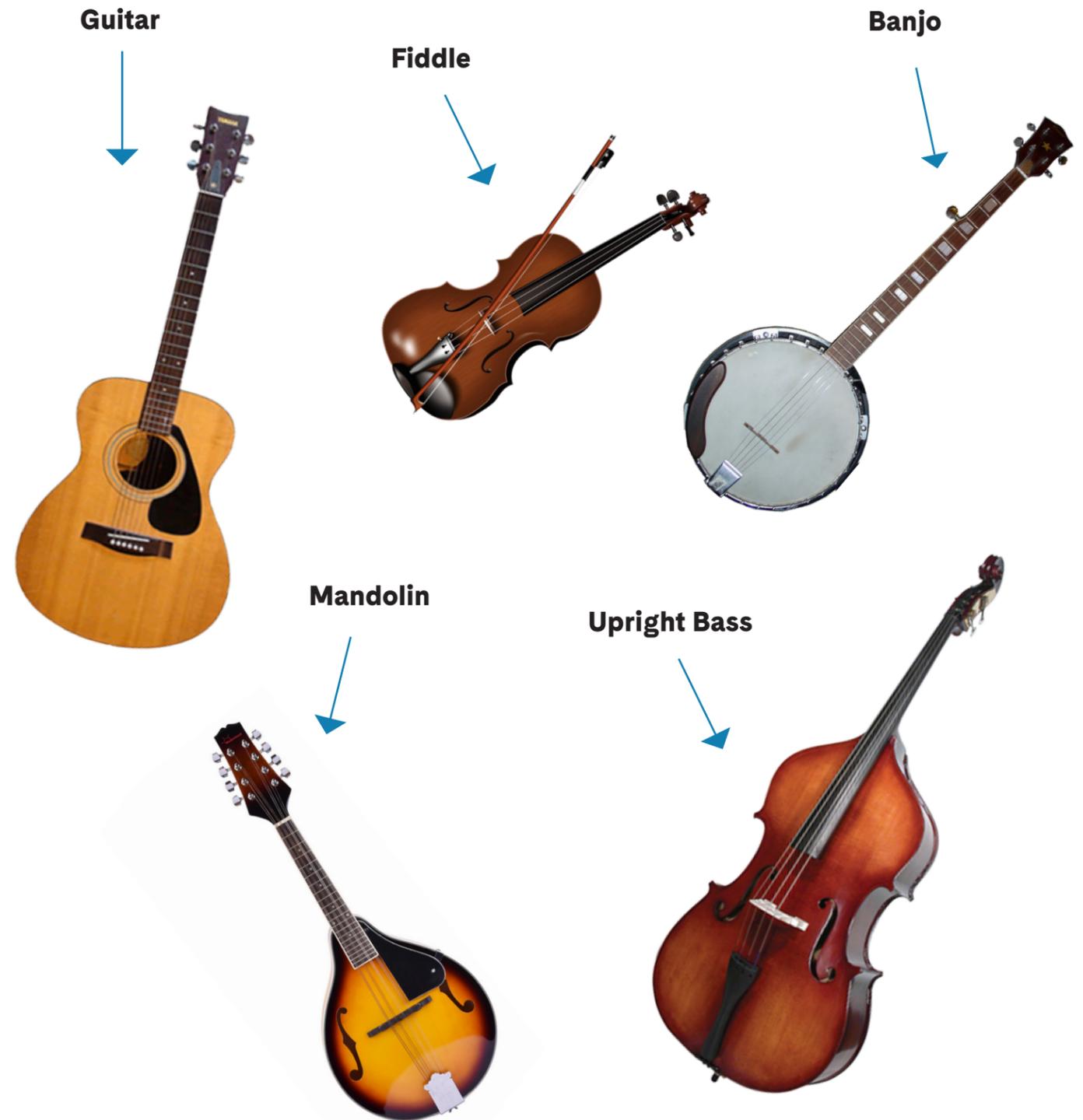
A _____

B _____

B _____

Bluegrass Instruments

Here are all the instruments you need to make your very own bluegrass band. Can you match the instrument to its sound?



Create Your Own Jam

Think about who you would invite to play in your bluegrass jam. Draw a picture and label who you are inviting to your jam and what instruments they will play.

Add detail of what the festival scene might look like.



Meet Timothy!

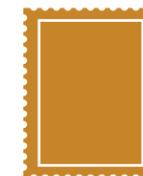


Dear Musical Explorers,

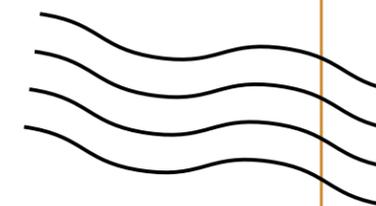
My name is Timothy, and I love to sing opera music. Do you know what that is? When I was your age growing up in Augusta, I heard a lot of church music since my dad was a minister. Believe it or not, I was a college student and already good at performing other styles when I first practiced singing opera. Although I enjoy many types of music, my favorite thing about opera is that you get to tell the audience a story as a character. Have you ever thought about what type of character you would want to be if you were on stage in a play or opera?

Remember to always keep imagining.
See you at the concert!

Timothy



Musical Explorers
c/o Savannah Music Festival
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Savannah/GA 31401





We asked Timothy...

What is one of your favorite operas?

One of my favorite operas would have to be *La bohème* composed by Giacomo Puccini. Puccini is one of my favorite composers; I love all the Romantic-era composers. The music in *La bohème* is just glorious. The story line, as is sometimes the case in the operatic repertoire, is kind of tragic, but there are many glorious moments. *La bohème* is one of my favorite operas—the moments, the music—it doesn't get much better than that.

Who taught you to sing opera?

I heard a wide variety of music as a child, but opera wasn't really on my radar. But through studying classical voice, I was introduced to opera as a student at Morehouse College. One of the first arias my professor gave to me to sing was the *bohème* aria.

What do you like about singing opera?

What I like most is that we get to tell a story about someone else, whether it is a fictional character or a nonfictional character. It is an opportunity to step outside our own experience and tell a story to the audience. It is the height of musical theater and to communicate these stories to the audience is probably my favorite part.

What is one of your favorite musical memories?

One of my first public singing performances was serenading the homecoming queens at a high school pep rally. A friend of mine and I sang a song by Brian McKnight in an open assembly in the gym in front of all of our peers. I had no idea how I made it through that, but it prepared me for singing in front of thousands of people at the Braves' game.

Ways We Can Use Our Voices

Circle the type of voice you use in each setting.

On the Playground			
whispering	speaking	singing	calling
In the Library			
whispering	speaking	singing	calling
In My Classroom			
whispering	speaking	singing	calling
In Music Class			
whispering	speaking	singing	calling

Parts of an Opera Production

There are many different jobs that work together to bring an Opera to the stage.



Write Your Own Riddle

In the opera Turandot, Calaf has to answer Princess Turandot's three riddles.

What are two things that you can never eat at breakfast?"

Answer: Lunch & Dinner

"What has ears, but cannot hear?"

Answer: Corn

"What falls in winter, but never gets hurt?"

Answer: Snow

Now make your own riddle!

Question: _____

Answer: _____

Meet Huxsie!



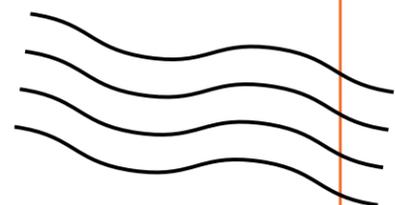
Dear Musical Explorers,

Hello from beautiful and historic Savannah! I grew up here, and I love singing all kinds of music, including gospel, jazz, and spirituals. I especially love singing for an audience—like at the Savannah Music Festival! I'm excited to share my music with you. Let me know which of my songs you like to sing the most. See you soon!

Sincerely,
Huxsie



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Trolley Tour in Savannah, GA

Huxsie

We asked Huxsie ...

How did you start singing music?

Singing has been my favorite thing for as long as I can remember. As a child, I started off singing in the youth choir in church. I also sang in the chorus at school every year.

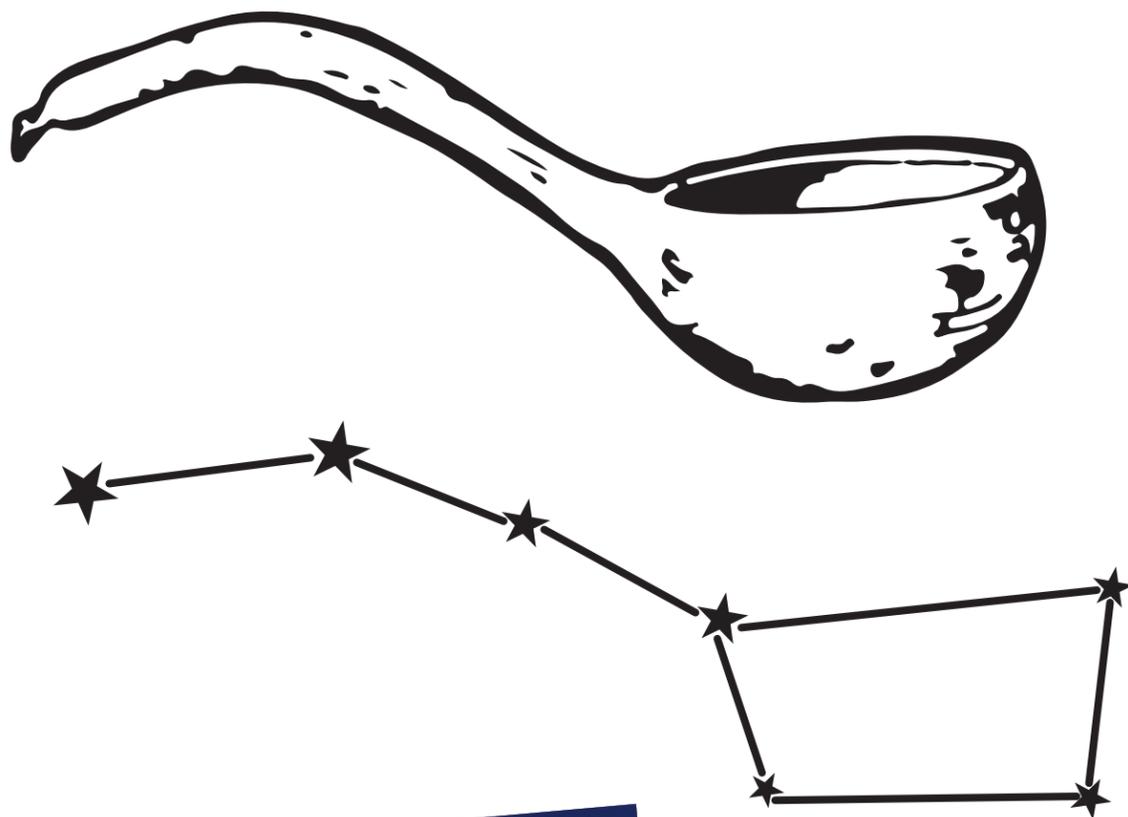
What is your favorite holiday and why?

Christmas is my favorite holiday. People are so filled with happiness, and are always ready to do something nice for those they love and those less fortunate. I feel it should be celebrated year-round. Actually, I never take my Christmas trees down!

What was your favorite book or story growing up?

My favorite book was *The Trolley Car Family* by Eleanor Clymer. It's about a big family who moves into a trolley car when the father loses his job. They live on the edge of town and start fending for themselves, including doing all their own farming. The kids and the parents work together to solve problems and make decisions. Plus, they are always eating cake! Every time I see a trolley on the streets in Savannah, I remember this book and smile.

Follow the Drinking Gourd



Create Your Own Code

Create an original verse for "Follow the Drinking Gourd" using new secret directions for finding your school.

Verse 1

When you see the _____
(code name for playground)

And you see the _____
(code name for the school building)

Follow the drinking gourd

Chorus

Follow the drinking gourd

Follow the drinking gourd

For the old man is a-waitin'

For to carry you to freedom

If you follow the drinking gourd.

Verse 2

The _____ makes a very good road
(code name for the street)

_____ will show you the way
(code name for the people)

Follow the drinking gourd

This Train is Bound for Glory

Imagine that the train is headed for a glorious place and draw an image in the box to represent this special place.



Learn more at musicexplorers.savannahmusicfestival.org