



# Christmas Music Lessons

A collection of 9 familiar carols  
notated for voice, recorder,  
ukulele, Boomwhackers,  
percussion instruments with  
music activities and puzzles.

**Themes & Variations**

# Christmas Music Lessons

By Craig Cassils

December music classes can be challenging, especially in the days following your holiday concert. This is a collection of lessons and activities based on nine familiar Christmas carols. Each song is notated for vocals, soprano recorder in two parts, Boomwhackers® in two parts, a variety of percussion instruments, and with chords provided for ukulele or guitar. All parts can be used together and also work in any combination. Each song comes with a vocal track and an orchestrated accompaniment track. A slower accompaniment track is given for Boomwhacker® play alongs. The Projectables includes colored Boomwhacker® notation, lyrics and chords for ukulele (guitar), recorder and percussion music to project.

Reproducible and Projectable lyrics are included so the songs could be used in a performance or a school holiday sing along. The activities include naming notes, writing notes, recognizing rhythms, creating new melodies, as well as fun games and word puzzles based on the lyrics of the carols and the song information.

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ISBN# 978-1-927062-66-1

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Cover by: Lana Swanson

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# Christmas Music Lessons - Song Information

## 1. Sing Noel

This was originally a Liberian melody called Banuwa, which means, "don't cry little girl". Somewhere along the line the words "Sing Noel" were added, creating a simple Christmas song.

## 2. Jolly Old St. Nicholas

This traditional Christmas carol was written by Benjamin Hanby, who also wrote "Up on the House Top". The song is traditionally performed to a melody originally written by James Lord Pierpont which he used for the original version of "Jingle Bells".

## 3. Up on the Housetop

This traditional Christmas song was written over 150 years ago! Benjamin Hanby wrote this song in 1864 in the USA.

## 4. Joy to the World

The words are by English hymn writer Isaac Watts, based on the second half of Psalm 98 in the Bible. The melody is based on music by George Frederic Handel, from parts of his Messiah. This carol was first published in 1719.

## 5. Jingle Bells

This great favourite was written by James Lord Pierpont, published in 1857, and originally written for American Thanksgiving.

## 6. Christmas Chopsticks

Chopsticks was written in 1877 by British composer Euphemia Allen, originally titled The Celebrated Chop Waltz, and was to be played with a chop-type motion with hands in a vertical position, little fingers down. The lyrics for this version are from the poem, "Twas the Night Before Christmas".

## 7. D'où viens-tu bergère?

This is a traditional French carol about Mary Magdalene coming from seeing Jesus in the manger, and telling the shepherds and angels of his birth.

## 8. Over the River and Through the Woods

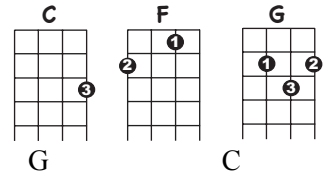
This was originally a Thanksgiving poem about visiting grandfather's house, but over time it was changed to visiting grandmother's house at Christmas. The composer of the melody is unknown.

## 9. O Come Little Children

Here is a traditional German carol dating back to 1798. As the saying goes...Christmas is for children!



# 1. Sing Noel - Recorder, Ukulele



2 Bar intro

C F G C C F G C

C F G C C F G C

C

No-el! No-el! No-el! No-el!

C F G C C F G C

Note for vocal version: If you are singing this, add the harmony part on the repeat.

# 1. Sing Noel - Boomwhackers

2 Bar intro

Part 1

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. \_\_\_\_\_

Part 2

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. \_\_\_\_\_

Sing No - el Sing No - el No - el No - el \_\_\_\_\_

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. \_\_\_\_\_

Sing No - el Sing No - el No - el No - el \_\_\_\_\_

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. \_\_\_\_\_

Sing we all No - el. Sing we all No el.

No - el! No - el!

Sing we all No el. Sing we all No el.

No - el! No - el!

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. \_\_\_\_\_

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No el, No el. \_\_\_\_\_

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No el, No el. \_\_\_\_\_

# 1. Sing Noel - Percussion

2 Bar intro

Bongo Drums

Hand Drum

Bgo. Dr.

HD

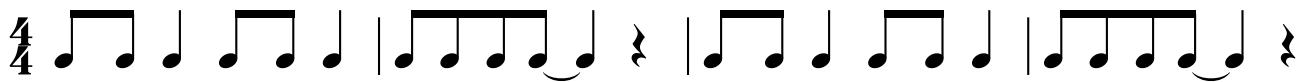
Bgo. Dr.

HD



# 1. Sing Noel - Activities

Use the same rhythm and write a new melody on the empty staff for Sing Noel.  
Use CDE GA and end on C



Sing No-el, sing No-el, No-el, No-el. \_\_\_

Sing No-el, sing No-el, No-el, No-el. \_\_\_



Search for the hidden words.

A D K B Y Q S H W J G L F R K V L W S V  
 K T L I B E R I A T X E E D R R I T B Z  
 H U U O S E T O N A R O R O W I N C U W  
 L K E Q I C D B A D N L X U Y E F Z K Q  
 L V Z Y K Q V B X D R U N J M T F C L B  
 O J T H A D I F L U A S S U K V D G H D  
 J L K X E G N Q E N T A R I Y S C Y V T  
 O V Q V Q D C U O P M T E H Y J Y C B K  
 U V P X R F K X N T S Z K E L X I F T S  
 J X X N O U Z O S N A N C W C S D T E A  
 S C U H L V T I I A A I A Y U U T V D H  
 P F T E W Q R O H C O Y H M D S X Z M K  
 R F L E J H S S I V R P W N N P K D S C  
 N E T L C U D R K H N N M P V V G A U P  
 S B C L N B F D N K H Z O F P N O K F T  
 F G O O Y A L P N I G M O U W V Y T U L  
 G N I S R R W Y Y K L Q B E T P S K N Y  
 A Q X D R D F S Q V M M L N M R T N B Q  
 I Q S J E B E X T F D D E X N C M T F P  
 B X N R O B W R S S A Y R A B T A P T W

INSTRUMENTS NOEL RECORDER	VOICE BOOMWHACKERS LIBERIA	NOTES SING CHRISTMAS	MUSIC PLAY UKULELE
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## 1. Sing Noel - Lyrics

Sing Noel, sing Noel, Noel, Noel.  
Sing Noel, sing Noel, Noel, Noel.  
Sing Noel, sing Noel, Noel, Noel.  
Sing Noel, sing Noel, Noel, Noel.  
Sing we all Noel.  
Sing we all Noel.  
Sing we all Noel.  
Sing we all Noel.  
Sing Noel, sing Noel, Noel, Noel.  
Sing Noel, sing Noel, Noel, Noel. 2x

## 2. Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

Jolly old Saint Nicholas,  
Lean your ear this way!  
Don't you tell a single soul  
What I'm going to say:  
Christmas Eve is coming soon;  
Now, you dear old man  
Whisper what you'll bring to me;  
Tell me if you can.

When the clock is striking twelve,  
When I'm fast asleep  
Down the chimney, broad and black,  
With your pack you'll creep  
All the stockings you will find  
Hanging in a row  
Mine will be the shortest one,  
You'll be sure to know

Bobby wants a pair of skates,  
Suzy wants a sled  
Nellie wants a picture book,  
Yellow, blue, and red  
Now I think I'll leave to you  
What to give the rest  
Choose for me, dear Santa Claus;  
You will know the best.

## 3. Up on the Housetop

Up on the housetop reindeer pause,  
Out jumps Good Old Santa Claus  
Down through the chimney with lots of toys  
All for the little ones, Christmas joys  
Ho, ho ho! Who wouldn't go?  
Ho, ho ho! Who wouldn't go?  
Up on the housetop, click, click, click,  
Down through the chimney with old St. Nick

First comes the stocking of little Nell  
Oh, dear Santa fill it well  
Give her a dolly that laughs and cries  
One that will open and shut its eyes  
Oh, ho, ho! Who wouldn't go?  
Oh, ho, ho! Who wouldn't go?  
Up on the housetop, click, click, click,  
Down through the chimney with old St. Nick

## 4. Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come.  
Let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns  
Let men their songs employ  
While fields and floods  
Rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

## 5. Jingle Bells

Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride  
In a one horse open sleigh  
Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride  
In a one horse open sleigh

Dashing through the snow  
In a one horse open sleigh  
O'er the fields we go,  
Laughing all the way  
Bells on bob tail ring,  
making spirits bright  
What fun it is to laugh and sing  
A sleighing song tonight

Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride  
In a one horse open sleigh  
Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride  
In a one horse open sleigh

## 7. D'où viens-tu, bergère

D'où viens-tu bergère, d'où viens-tu?  
D'où viens-tu bergère, d'où viens-tu?  
Je viens de l'étable, de m'y promener  
J'ai vu un miracle ce soir arriver.

Qu'as-tu vu, bergère, qu'as-tu vu ?  
Qu'as-tu vu, bergère, qu'as-tu vu ?  
J'ai vu dans la crèche un petit enfant  
Sur la paille fraîche, mis bien  
tendrement.

Est-il beau, bergère, est-il beau ?  
Est-il beau, bergère, est-il beau ?  
Plus beau que la lune, aussi le soleil  
Jamais la nature n'a vu son pareil.

## 6. Christmas Chopsticks

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the  
house,

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.  
All the stockings were hung by the chimney with care,  
In the hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.  
He's bringing lots of toys for girls and boys.  
But wait until you see that Merry Christmas tree  
So on Dasher, on Dancer, on Prancer and Vixen,  
On Comet, on Cupid, on Donner and Blitzen!  
To the top of the roof to the top of the wall,  
He's coming to wish Merry Christmas to all.

## 8. Over the River

Over the river and through the woods  
To Grandmother's house we go.  
The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh  
Through white and drifted snow.  
Over the river and through the woods,  
Oh, how the wind does blow.  
It stings the toes and bites the nose  
As over the ground we go.

Over the river and through the woods  
And straight through the barnyard gate.  
It seems that we go so dreadfully slow;  
It is so hard to wait.

Over the river and through the woods,  
Now Grandma's cap I spy.  
Hurray for the fun; the pudding's done;  
Hurrah for the pumpkin pie.

## 9. O Come Little Children

O come, little children, O come one and all,  
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small,  
God's son for a gift has been sent you this night  
To be your redeemer, your joy and delight.

He's born in a stable for you and for me,  
Draw near by the bright gleaming starlight to see,  
In swaddling clothes lying so meek and so mild,  
And purer than angels the heavenly Child.

See Mary and Joseph, with love beaming eyes,  
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies,  
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love  
While angels sing loud hallelujahs above.