



THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD

BASICS BUNDLE

for the elements of music

harmony

dynamics

texture



rhythm

timbre

tempo

pitch

form

beat



Google Slides & PowerPoint Versions

Effortlessly teach each music element with:

- ✓ Fun playalongs
- ✓ Interactive audio
- ✓ Real-life images
- ✓ Pre & post quiz
- ✓ Sample lesson plans

Students make meaningful connections with **interactive audio** that connects to their daily lives outside of music class

STEADY BEAT **SOUNDS LIKE**

DYNAMICS **SOUND LIKE**

FORM **SOUNDS LIKE**

HARMONY **SOUNDS LIKE**

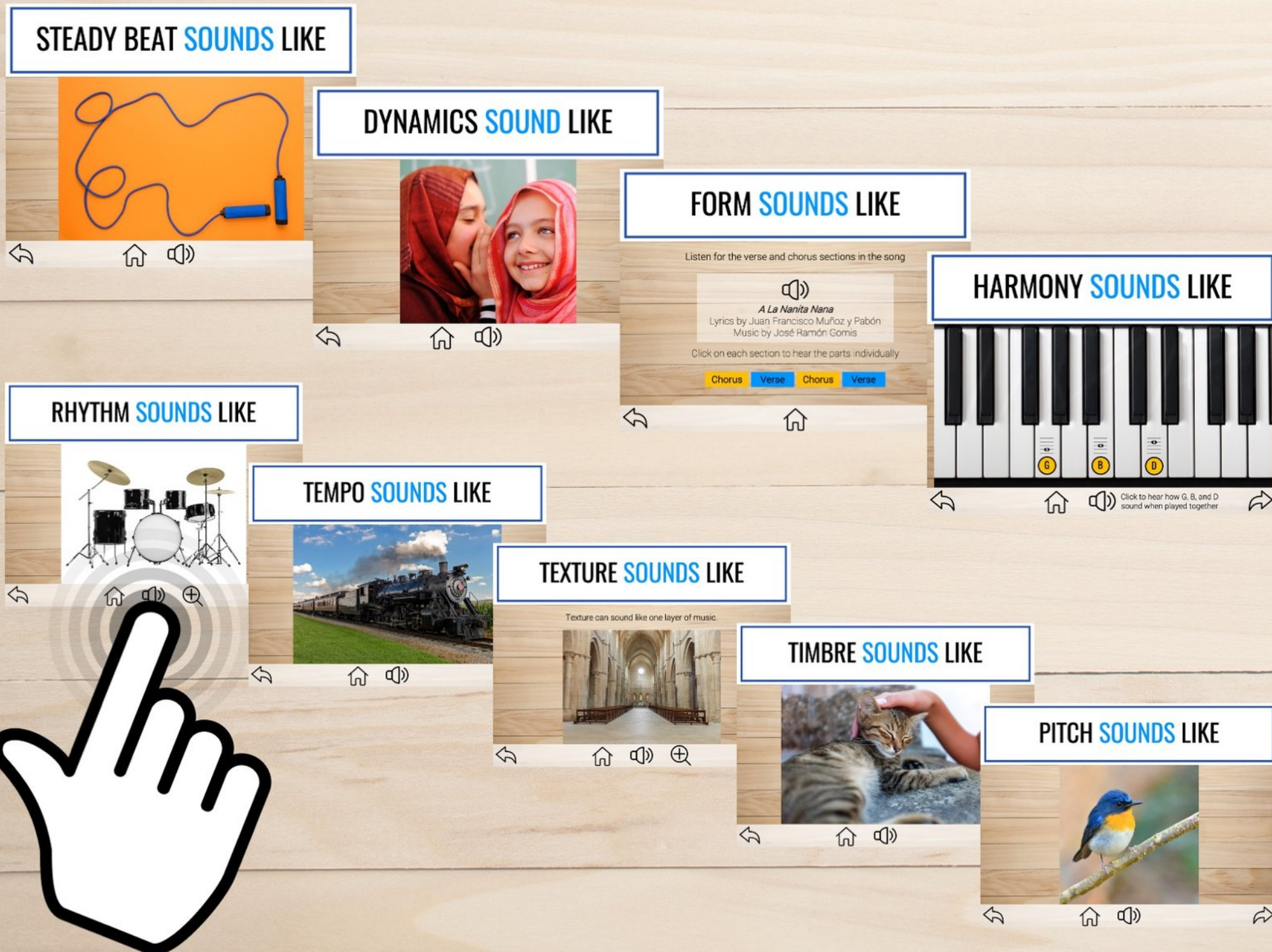
RHYTHM **SOUNDS LIKE**

TEMPO **SOUNDS LIKE**

TEXTURE **SOUNDS LIKE**

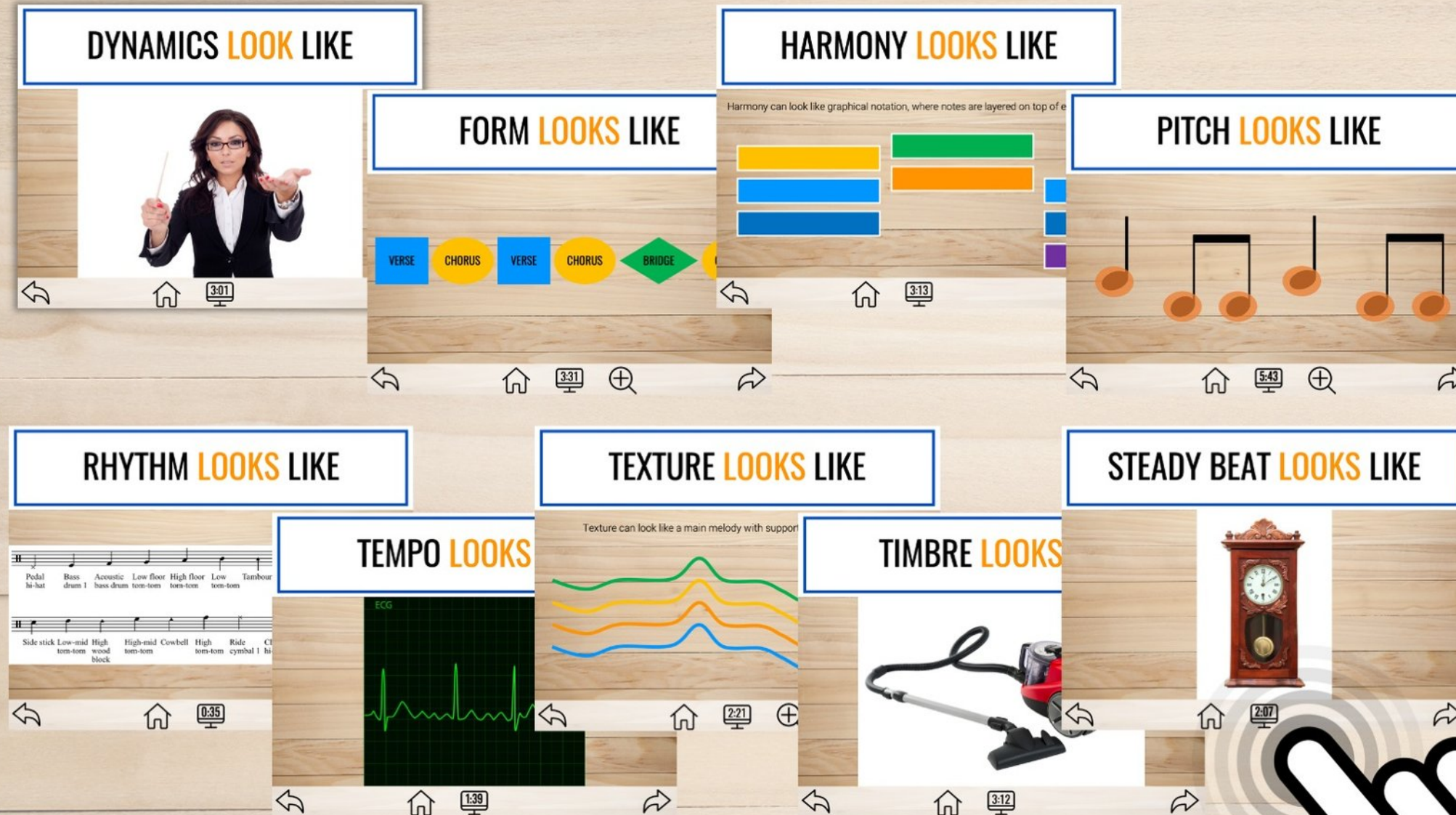
TIMBRE **SOUNDS LIKE**

PITCH **SOUNDS LIKE**



Ask students to **recreate**
each sound using their
bodies or voices.

Students **see** each element via engaging videos



This is what I've been waiting for. I don't use a textbook to organize my scope and sequence, so this was a great base resource that I could pull from for any grade when I want to "officially" introduce a concept and explore it thoroughly. It includes way more than I need for each concept, and I appreciate that too!

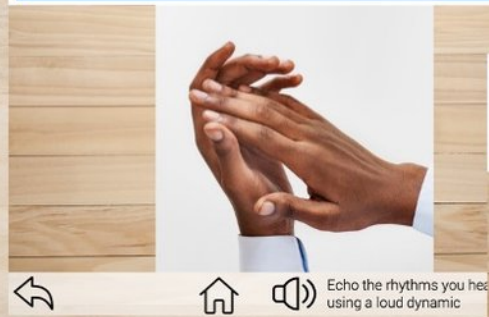
— Megan H.



Discuss the elements in each video. Ask what they discovered.

Students play along with interactive audio

DYNAMICS FEELS LIKE

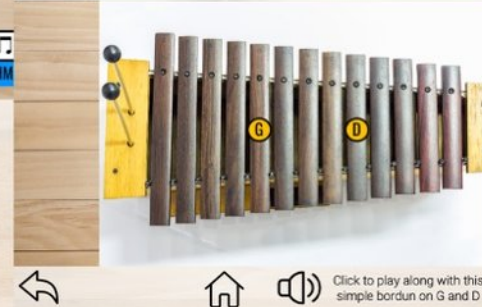


FORM FEELS LIKE

Tap along with each rhythm. Then, put them together and repeat.



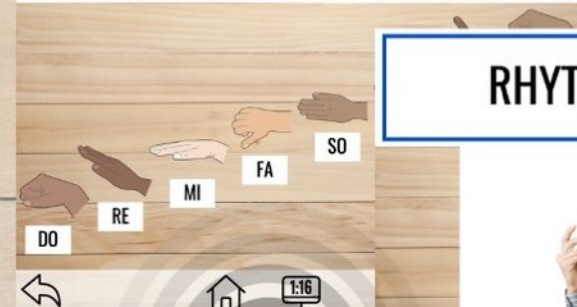
HARMONY FEELS LIKE



STEADY BEAT FEELS LIKE



PITCH FEELS LIKE



RHYTHM FEELS LIKE



TEMPO FEELS LIKE



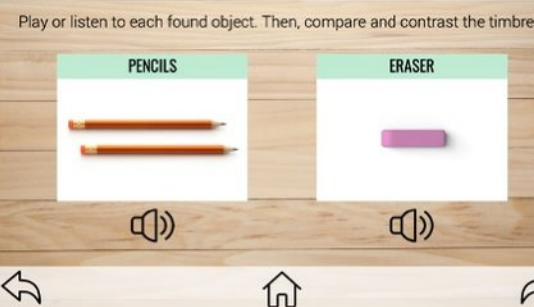
TEXTURE FEELS LIKE

Texture can feel thin, like singing a solo.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are?
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.
Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are?



TIMBRE FEELS LIKE



Challenge students to move, sing, and play with each element.

Quick & easy assessments with immediate feedback

QUESTION #1

DYNAMICS ARE THE _____ IN MUSIC.

- A STEADY BEATS
- B LOUDS AND SOFTS
- C RHYTHMS



ANSWER #1

DYNAMICS ARE THE _____ IN MUSIC.

- ☒ STEADY BEATS
- ☒ LOUDS AND SOFTS
- ☒ RHYTHMS



I used this with my grade 6 general music as an introduction to musical elements. They really appreciated the videos and activities, and I was also able to use with students who were learning at home. Thanks for all the work on this!

– Kelli H.



Play a quick game by having students separate into groups, answer each question, then see which group answered the most questions correctly.

Musical opposites with audio samples help students understand what each element is **NOT**

DYNAMICS ARE NOT PITCHES

When we talk about DYNAMICS, we use words such as soft, loud, and quiet. When we talk about PITCHES, we use words such as high and low.

Tap each circle to hear the dynamic levels of instruments with the same pitch.

TUBA SAXOPHONE

FORM IS NOT AN ORCHESTRA WARMING UP

HARMONY IS NOT DISSONANCE

STEADY BEAT IS NOT

PITCH IS NOT SILENCE

RHYTHM IS NOT PITCH

Rhythm is the length of time between notes. Pitch is how high or low a note is.

TEMPO IS NOT RHYTHM

Listen to both rhythms. What is the difference?

TEXTURE IS NOT DYNAMICS

A thin texture can be loud. A thick texture can be soft.

TIMBRE IS NOT PITCH

Instruments can play the same pitches, but still sound different. The difference in their sound is due to their unique timbres.

PIANO CLARINET



Ask students to share some more examples of **musical opposites.**

Bonus slides allow students to dig deeper for even more interesting facts

STEADY BEAT IS **NOT**



FIREWORKS IN 1749

George Frideric Handel wrote music specifically for a fireworks display. It was called *Music for the Royal Fireworks*.




*Music for the
Royal Fireworks*



People were so excited to hear the music, that they caused a three-hour traffic jam on the London Bridge.



The examples are really captivating - my kids could watch and listen to how each topic was defined! They understood so much better than having me say so - they could see it and hear it applied. Really great!

— Amy W.



Ask **early-finishers** to find all the bonus slides and share what they learned.

Challenge students with bonus questions

BONUS QUESTIONS

Click on the question you chose to check your answer

- A** What causes chills when listening to music?
- B** Does lightning or thunder come first?
- C** What is the bottom of the clarinet called?
- D** Name a composer whose music has lasted the test of time.



These questions come from the bonus slides



Ask students to work in pairs
to answer all the bonus
questions.

Sample lesson and ideas to help you review, sequence, and extend the presentation

BASICS OF DYNAMICS
SAMPLE LESSON IDEA

GRADES
2nd Grade General Music
▲ This lesson could be used with multiple grade levels by modifying the objectives ▲

OBJECTIVES
Students will identify, define, and perform soft and loud dynamics.
Students will identify, define, and perform the dynamics of piano and forte.

SAMPLE LESSON FLOW DAY 1 (approximately 25 minutes)

1. Lead students through the "What it is" and "What it Sounds Like" parts of the [Basics of Dynamics](#) presentation.
2. Play Haydn's Symphony No. 94, 2nd Movement, the "Surprise Symphony". Ask students to close their eyes and listen for a surprise in the music.
3. After their first listen, ask students to describe the surprise.
4. Then, play the theme of Haydn's "Surprise Symphony" again while modeling the following body percussion pattern:
 - Pat your knees on the eighth notes
 - Cross arms and touch your elbows during quarter notes
 - When the loud quarter note hits, stomp loudly
5. Play the piece again, but this time, ask the students to follow along with your body movements.
6. Finally, ask students to perform the movements without you, making sure to reflect the dynamics in their movements.
7. Explain to students that they'll be creating their own body percussion to go along with Haydn's "Surprise Symphony". Give them the following guidelines:
 - ♫ Their movements should reflect the dynamics of the piece
 - ♫ Their movements should follow the rhythm of the piece, not the beat
 - ♫ They can use their mouths to create sound, but it needs to be body percussion, not a vocalization. For example, they could create a popping sound by keeping their mouths open and flicking the sides of their cheek. However, they can't make sounds by shouting.
 - ♫ They can be in groups of 2-5

➤ **TEACHER TIP:** Gauge your [unique classroom situation](#) carefully before asking students to separate into partners or small groups. Some classes may do better by having you separate them into groups at random, while other classes may do better when being able to choose their own partners. Be ready to step in and be a partner with a student or work with one of the groups if they need additional assistance.

8. Give students a set time to create their movements, making sure to give them warnings as the end of their time nears. Then, play the theme and let them practice several times as a group. During each replay, look around to each group and assess whether or not their movements are reflecting the dynamics.
9. Lastly, Give groups a chance to perform their movements for the class if they choose.

_____ End of Day One _____
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(minutes)
section of the [Basics of Dynamics](#) presentation depending on what you have available:

present soft sounds and another to body percussion s (or more) to play whatever they do so carefully). This gives them a instrument. It also helps prevent opposed to later on. no/soft on a steady beat. Then, ask s the board: p, p, p, f. Then, have the dy beat. good steady beat warm-up on their s get the feel for how to play their levels. ect the included sheet music onto it ut copies of the music and laminate re slowly. ading, and reveal them as you go. th all of the music notes all at once. cess of practicing, starting with n until you've learned the entire re slowly, try putting it all together his stage will help you to decide how e to go back a step or modify the are performing on Boomwhackers", nts so that they're focusing on only Two _____
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(based on student interest)

day's lesson will largely depend on ending on how your students y need to modify the structure of the to have students play rhythm nents. Or, you may need to challenge elow. ▲ phony" as they review the body y One. do a quick, steady beat warm-up, to a steady beat. y". Again, how you structure this t time. a challenge at this point, have them pitched instruments, give them a ow to have practice time without ments on the floor behind them, or d to pick them up. ough the theme of the symphony on ment). aps. If they're using mallet nallets around and use the handle to f the [Basics of Dynamics](#) o explore the presentation. They may m about why some people feel e anatomy of a clarinet, whether ent sounds of tigers, or about the m the presentation. entation.

DYNAMICS
SON IDEAS
(minutes)
s from the presentation.
oving, singing, & playing) from the he presentation. They discuss the ased to teach them ant activities laid out in the blog post.

DYNAMICS
SON IDEAS
POST LINKS
ant activities laid out in the blog post.

MENT NOTATION
y" Theme
nd Movement

MENT NOTATION
y" Theme
nd Movement

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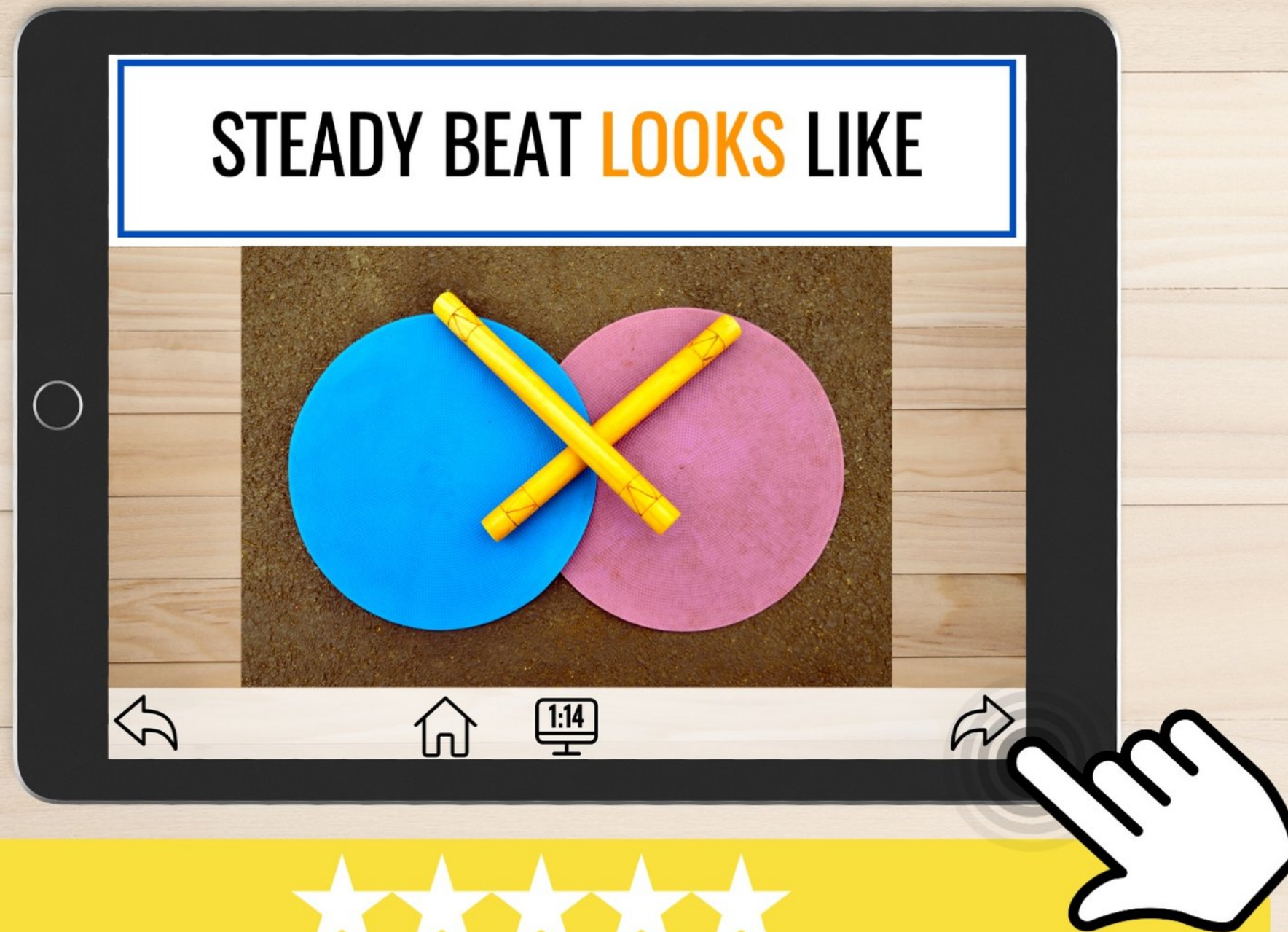
Click on the blog post links in the sample lesson for more fun, **movement-filled** ideas!



I just love your "Basics" series! Always great for review, introducing concepts, or even sub plans! Thank you for sharing this!

– Emily S.

It's so easy to navigate that students can use it during e-learning days!



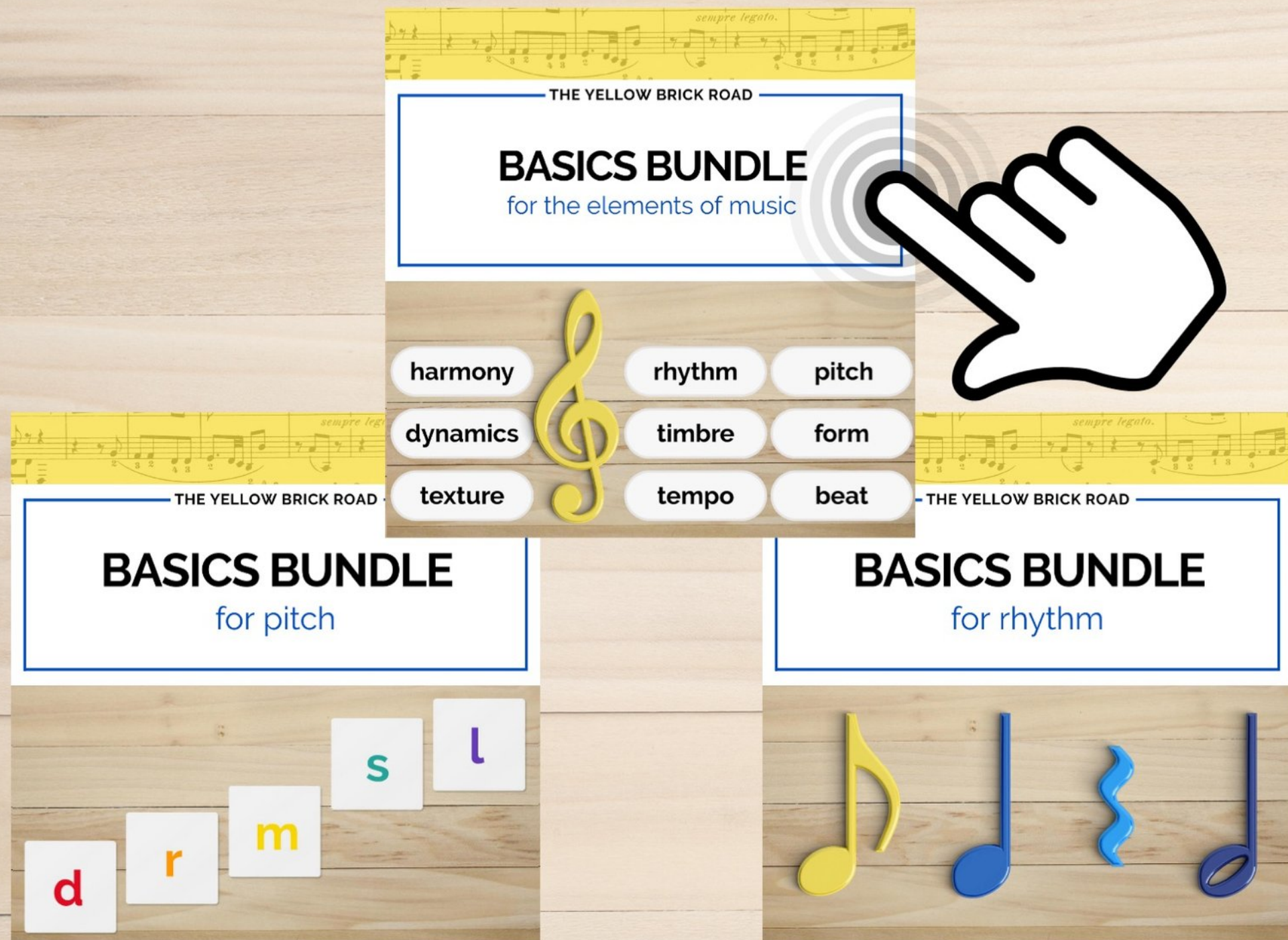
This saved me during hybrid learning last year! Each presentation is so well put together and my students loved all the different videos and activities. I felt like it really helped solidify their understanding of the music basics.

Thank you!

– Jenna S.



Use the presentations as a
no-prep activity for
e-learning days or for subs.



THIS RESOURCE IS THE ONLY REASON I HAVEN'T TORN ALL MY HAIR OUT YET. I am a teacher in a small private elementary school, and we have two classrooms for grades K-8. I am also the de facto music teacher on Thursdays, and I was FREAKING OUT about what and how I would teach such a wide variety of ages and skill levels. A GREAT place to start is the basics of music, and this resource has all the slideshows and links ready to go so there is minimal prep on the part of the teacher. Seriously, this is like my favorite thing in the whole universe, and I will never not recommend it to others.

– Kathleen N.



Save money by
grabbing all the
BASICS BUNDLES