



Yule-kulele Christmas Medley Teacher Guide

CREATE are inviting any Glasgow schools owning ukuleles to get involved with an online, musical celebration of Christmas this year! The end product will be a video montage recording of all the schools that have taken part, playing along to the Christmas Medley (the more Santa hats the better!). This will be shared on social media as part of the CREATE Virtual Christmas Concert on 15th December.

You may want to try this with your current ukulele group or with your teaching class. The project will probably work best for children in P4-7 classes.

If you are starting with complete beginners it may be a good idea to watch our [Beginner's Guide to the Ukulele](#) videos.

Getting started

- First, make sure you are in tune! (see [Beginner's Guide Tuning Video](#))
- Get started by watching the [Yule-kulele Christmas Medley Main Video](#).
- The main video is the one you should play and join in with at each practise, but you may want to build in additional activities mentioned below, to allow more focused learning of chord changes and strumming.
- Be sure to pause and rewind the video so the children can have a go at each section when practising.

Listen to the original tracks featured in the Medley with the children (use YouTube etc.). *Rocking around the Christmas Tree* by Brenda Lee, *Deck the Halls* (trad.) and *Winter Wonderland* - lots of artists have recorded this one!

Learning the chords

- You will see in the main video that there are two easy chords in this piece of music - C7 and Easy F.
- Please watch the video [How to use the C7 to F Chord Change Track](#). You can play along with this or you can use the [C7 to F practise backing track](#).
- Split the class into 2 teams and assign each group just one chord to start with - Easy F or C7. They should only play when their chord is playing. Make sure they swap jobs each time!
- When confident, ask children to play both chords leaving time (4 beats) to change (as per video).

Slow it down

- It's always easier to start slowly and build up speed as confidence grows!
- Use the [Yule-kulele Christmas Medley SLOWER PRACTISE Backing Track](#).



- Split the children into 2 chord groups if necessary. Once they have played through on one chord, swap the group.
- Split the songs into smaller sections to practise.

Strumming Extension

If your children want more of a challenge with their strumming, watch the [Yule-kulele Christmas Medley Strumming 2](#) video for more advanced strumming patterns that you can add.

Performance

We would like each group to submit 2 videos of them playing along to the [Yule-kulele Christmas Medley PERFORMANCE Backing Track](#). If you have Santa hats, tinsel etc. please use it and spread the good cheer!

- **Recording 1:** Whole class/group performing with the **backing track turned up** so there is a good balance between the track and the performers sound.
- **Recording 2:** Whole class/group playing with the **backing track turned down** as low as possible so all we can hear is your group strumming away without the other sound. This will be used for the montage.

N.B. Remember that restrictions on singing are still in place, and though we would love to hear you...please do not sing in any part of this project.

You can **share Recording 1 with us on Twitter by tagging @GlasgowCREATE** and using **#CREATEChristmas**.

To be included in the video montage with ukulele groups from across the city, please **send Recording 2 to Louise Thomas, YMI Tutor, by Tuesday 8th December**.

Louise Thomas - gw16thomaslouise@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

We can't wait to see you join in and we hope you will share your recordings of the Yule-kulele Christmas Medley with us!

