



TEACHER'S GUIDE:

**WHEN I FIRST CAME TO THIS
LAND, AN INTRODUCTION TO
BLUES AND FOLK MUSIC**

WITH ROBERT JONES

B-1; 15:50 MIN

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the video, “When I First Came to this Land, An Introduction to Blues and Folk Music,” the students will be able to:

- 1.** List three elements of music that are parts of a song.
- 2.** Describe how it is possible to remember song lyrics and sing along with Robert Jones in the video.
- 3.** Explain how different songs can share the same or similar melody.
- 4.** Identify an element of music that is commonly emphasized in blues music.



1. LIST THREE ELEMENTS OF MUSIC THAT ARE PARTS OF A SONG.

Video:

Rhythm, rhyme and melody

2. DESCRIBE HOW IT IS POSSIBLE TO REMEMBER SONG LYRICS AND SING ALONG WITH ROBERT JONES IN THE VIDEO.

Video:

Words that rhyme help memorization (fun - sun; and I called my farm - muscle in my arm; and I called my cat - chase that rat; and I called my cow - no milk now); motions aid in remembering rhyme, which in turn helps one to remember song lyrics; repetition aids in memorization.

3. EXPLAIN HOW DIFFERENT SONGS CAN SHARE THE SAME OR SIMILAR MELODY.

Video:

“When I First Came to this Land,” “Twinkle Twinkle Little Star,” and “The Alphabet Song” all have similar melodies but different words.

4. IDENTIFY AN ELEMENT OF MUSIC THAT IS COMMONLY EMPHASIZED IN BLUES MUSIC.

Video:

Rhythm

Answers to Multiple Choice Quiz:

1. C 2. B 3. A 4. A

QUIZ – MULTIPLE CHOICE

For a Google Form version of this quiz, go to:
MVBS.org/Teacher-Resources

1. What are three elements of music that are parts of a song?

- a. Beginning, middle and end
- b. Words, sound, structure
- c. Rhythm, rhyme and melody

2. What is helpful to memorizing song lyrics?

- a. Paying attention and having breakfast
- b. Words that rhyme, motions that go with the words and repetition
- c. Having the words in front of you and diagrams of the motions

3. Can different songs share the same or similar melody?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Sometimes, but not always

4. What element of music is commonly emphasized in blues music?

- a. Rhythm
- b. Words that tell complicated stories
- c. Electric guitar solors

QUIZ – SHORT ANSWER

For a Google Form version of this quiz, go to:
[MVBS.org/Teacher-Resources](https://www.mvbs.org/Teacher-Resources)

1. What are three elements of music that are parts of a song?

2. What is helpful to memorizing song lyrics?

3. Can different songs share the same or similar melody?

4. What element of music is commonly emphasized in blues music?

MUSICIAN:



ROBERT JONES

Rev. Robert Jones, Sr. is a native of Detroit and an inspirational storyteller and musician celebrating the history, humor and power of American Roots music. His deep love for traditional African American and American traditional music is shared in live and remote performances that interweave timeless stories with original and traditional songs. For more than thirty years Robert has entertained and educated audiences of all ages in schools, colleges, libraries, union halls, prisons, churches and civil rights organizations. At the heart of his message is the belief that our cultural diversity tells a story that should celebrate, not just tolerate.

Acclaimed photographer James Fraher writes about Robert: “Perhaps the world’s most highly educated blues musician, an ordained minister, a longtime DJ, and a living encyclopedia of blues history, the Reverend Robert Jones is comfortable among juke joint loud talkers, fancy-hatted church ladies, and PhDs alike.”

Rev. Robert Jones makes his home in Detroit while performing throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. An award-winning multi-instrumentalist, he is accomplished at guitar, harmonica, mandolin, banjo and fiddle. He has recorded six albums of original and tradition songs. Robert is the former host of the award-winning radio programs “Blues from the Lowlands” and “Deep River” broadcast on Detroit Public Radio’s WDET-FM Detroit. And, he has taught at music history courses at Wayne State University in Detroit.

In 2017 Robert and Matt Watroba co-founded “Common Chords”, 501.c3 educational organization designed to create community, cultural and historical connections through music and the arts. In 2018 Robert received a Kresge Arts Fellowship for Music Composition and Performance.

BLUES EDUCATION EVALUATION

Your participation in this short evaluation helps ensure future grant funding to support this program. Please submit feedback regarding the course you have just completed, including feedback on course structure, and content.

Please visit the link below!

[MVBS.org/Teacher-Evaluation](https://mvbs.org/Teacher-Evaluation)

THANK YOU!





MISSISSIPPI VALLEY BLUES SOCIETY

Our mission is to ensure the future of a uniquely American art form by fostering greater public appreciation through performance, education, and preservation of the Blues Heritage.

Mississippi Valley Blues Society, a nonprofit organization

The Education Committee is dedicated to increasing the public's knowledge, understanding and appreciation of blues music through live and remote performances and by providing information about the music and its' history, which includes the musicians (past and present) who play it. Education Committee programs are provided for no cost to the public.

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