



### 3.4: Composing and Composers

New Concepts: Composing music

Review Concepts: Composers

**2 min.: Sing DM theme song, then follow up on last week.** Who remembers what a composer is? What composer did we learn about last week?

**6-8 min.: A composer is someone who composes music.** What does it mean to compose music? It means to write music. What is a song you know? Do you know who wrote that song? What about the song we sang last week? (“Over the River and Through the Woods?”) (See what the children remember, what they know.) Today we’re going to learn about some composers and then YOU are going to be a composer! YOU are going to write your very own song! Share 1-2 examples of songs and their composers (see links on website). Sing one verse of “Over the River and Through the Woods” in Solfa and using the book or just your own actions or with visuals—however you choose. Sing it more than once to help the children learn it. (Next week you will help them play some of it on the bells, so your goal is to help them have the tune solidly in their head. Words and multiple repetitions help the tune to “stick” and vice versa.)

**5-7 min.: Teach how to retrieve, handle, play the bells.** If possible, have the children take their bells to their desks to play them.

**5 min.: Teach the children how to write a song.** Model a simple composition process for 1 minute, then hand out a 3x5 card to each child. Have them write their name on one side of the card, then flip it over and color dots for the notes they want to play.

**3 min.: Performances.** Ask as many children as there is remaining time to share their songs with the class. Remind the children to use their best “audience manners” by listening politely to each performer and then clapping for each person at the end of their performance. The performers acknowledge the audience by bowing. You could also have “turn to your partner” performances if you want.

**5 min.: Teach how to put away the bells in a careful and orderly way.**

**1 minute: Adios, Amigos (Goodbye Song).**