**Elementary Music From Home**

Here are suggestions for games you can play from home!

**Monday**

**Option 1: Interviews:** Interview your family members about their musical backgrounds and interests. What is their favorite song right now and why? What instruments do they play? What does music mean to them? Who are their favorite artists? Record the responses you get, and then answer those questions yourself!.

**Option 2: Instrument invention:** Invent a new instrument! Draw a picture of it and describe how it is played, how it’s constructed and what it sounds like. Even better: make one out of recycled materials.

**Option 3: My Favorite \_\_\_:**  Write a song about your favorite stuffed animal and sing it for your family!

**Option 4: Parody:** Rewrite the words of a song you like as a way to tell us how you feel.

**Tuesday**

**Option 1: Hand-washing dance choreography:** Choreograph a short dance routine incorporating the different ways we’re recommended to wash our hands (scrubbing nails, between fingers, etc).

**Option 2: Listening log:** Write down music that you hear each day. How does it make you feel? Is it fast or slow? Who wrote it/performed it? What kind of instruments are in it? If it has a singer, what is their voice like? What would it sound like with a different singer?

**Option 3: Freeze!:** Have someone play or sing music for you, and freeze when they stop it!

**Option 4: Copy Cat:** Go outside! What sounds do you hear? Can you copy them?

**Wednesday**

**Option 1: Soundtrack of my life:** Create an imaginary album that shows who they are. Make a list of song titles, and for each song describe the music. You can use songs that you’ve already heard or make up your own. If you want to make it truly yours, make your own album cover for it.

**Option 2: Osti-what?:** An ostinato is a repeated rhythmic or melodic pattern that goes along with a song. Create your own pattern along to a song you love to listen to or sing along with

**Option 3: Dance Studio:** Make your own dance studio, right in your living room. If you really want to make it fancy, grab a scarf or something to make your movements even bigger! Move however the music you’re listening to makes you feel.

**Thursday**

**Option 1: Forte/Piano Scavenger Hunt:** Find three things in your house/yard that make forte (loud) sounds and three things that make piano (soft) sounds. Is a pillow soft or loud? How about a metal pan? Can you make things crescendo (get louder) and decrescendo (get softer)?

**Option 2: My Own Refrain:** Pick a book you love. Does it have any lines that repeat? Turn those lines into your own song to sing along as you read it!

**Option 3: Tic-Tac-Toe:** Play Tic-Tac-Toe, but choose a music symbol for your turn instead of and “x” or “o.” Psst: quarter notes and half notes are pretty fun and easy to draw!

**Option 4: Video Game Star:** What’s your favorite video game song? If it doesn’t have words, write in your own!

**Option 5: Reality Star:** Record yourself singing a song you like. You don’t have to post it anywhere, but you will definitely make your music teacher’s day if you play it for her when we all get back!

**Friday**

**Option 1: Musical Pillows:** Get your whole family involved! Instead of using chairs, make a circle of pillows on the floor, with one pillow fewer than family members. Circle around them as the music plays, and when it stops, be the first to a pillow!

**Option 2: Hot and Cold:** Again, grab a family member. Hide an object while they cover their eyes, and then tell them “go.” As they look for the object, help them know they’re closer by singing a song louder or that they’re far away by singing a song softer.

**Option 3: Rhythm Party:** Create rhythm patterns using every day objects in your house. For example: “spoons, socks, Lucky Charms, marshmallows.” Older kids, do you know how to write those rhythms out using our rhythm notes?

**Option 4: Sound FX:** What do you have in your house that can copy sound effects from your favorite movies or video games? Or, find a favorite book and create sound effects to go along with it.

**Strings**

**4th Grade String Students**: Continue practicing on "Variation on Orpheus" and "Blues". In the Essential Elements book work on p. 15, 19, 20, & 21. Practice 5 days a week for 10-15 minutes. Make flashcards for the D & A string notes. Challenge: also make flashcards for your other strings.

**5th Grade String Students Not in ACO:** Continue practicing on "We Will Rock You" and the other songs for school programs. In the Essential Elements book work on pages 25-28. Practice 5 days a week for 10-15 minutes

**5th Grade ACO Students:** Continue practicing your orchestra music as well as music for your school program. Practice 5 days a week for 15-30 minutes.