

# Lesson 5: Rocky Mountain

## FOCUS ON

1. Singing
2. Applying the pentatonic scale
3. Sight reading

## KEY POINTS

- Echo-sing the melody four measures at a time.
- Treat Uke II as a sight-reading and/or note-naming exercise at a moderate tempo:
  1. sing note names
  2. play notes
  3. sing note names and play notes at the same time
- Teach Uke I by ear (i.e. by echo-picking), four measures at a time.
- Point out that the notes in m. 5 are the same as the notes in m. 9–10, just in reverse order.
- To accompany, lightly strum the chords indicated.

## Lesson 5: Rocky Mountain

Beginning in northern British Columbia, Canada, and stretching all the way to New Mexico, U.S.A., the Rocky Mountains (or “Rockies”) are a range of mountains over 4,800 kilometers (3,000 miles) long.

### Rocky Mountain

At a walking pace  
C Traditional North American

Uke. I  
1. Ro - cky moun-tain, ro - cky moun-tain, ro - cky moun-tain high,

Uke. II  
5 F C F C G C  
When you're on that ro - cky moun-tain hang your head and cry.

Chorus:  
9 C F C G  
Do, do, do, do, do re - mem - ber me,

13 C F C G C  
Do, do, do, do, do re - mem - ber me.

2. Sunny valley, sunny valley, sunny valley low,  
When you're in that sunny valley, sing it soft and slow.

3. Stormy ocean, stormy ocean, stormy ocean wide,  
When you're on that deep blue sea, there's no place you can hide.

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## ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS & COMMENTS

- Suggested arrangement:
  - intro: teacher strums or “vamps” on C
  - sing verse 1 and chorus (singing starts on cue from teacher)
  - pick verse and chorus
  - sing verse 2 and chorus
  - pick verse and chorus
  - sing verse 3 and chorus
  - tag ending: pick m. 15–16
- Uke I in *Rocky Mountain* uses the pentatonic scale while Uke II uses the open string notes only. Even at this early stage you're likely to have a range of abilities in your class; multi-level arrangements like this one are designed to keep all students involved and challenged no matter what their skill level may be.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

*It is expected that students will:*

- sing in tune with pleasant tone
- sight-read Uke II
- pick in parts