

# Rocky Mountain

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Rocky Mountain' in 2/4 time, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics and phonetic annotations above the notes. The lyrics are: 'Rock - y moun - tain rock - y moun - tain, rock - y mount - tain high, When you're on that rock - y moun - tain, hang your head and cry. Do, do, do, do, do re - mem - ber me, Do, do, do, do, do re - mem - ber me.'

Rock - y moun - tain rock - y moun - tain, rock - y mount - tain high,  
When you're on that rock - y moun - tain, hang your head and cry.  
Do, do, do, do, do re - mem - ber me,  
Do, do, do, do, do re - mem - ber me.

## Lyrics:

1. Rocky mountain, rocky mountain, rocky mountain high,  
When you're on that rocky mountain, hang your head and cry.  
Do, do, do, do, do remember me.  
Do, do, do, do, do remember me.
2. Sunny valley, sunny valley sunny valley low,  
When you're in that sunny valley, sing it soft and slow.  
Do, do, do, do, do remember me.  
Do, do, do, do, do remember me.
3. Stormy ocean, stormy ocean, stormy ocean wide,  
When you're on that deep blue sea, there's no place you can hide.  
Do, do, do, do, do remember me.  
Do, do, do, do, do remember me.



## SINGING

Have the students keep a steady beat as you sing each phrase of the song, then have them echo back. As you learn the song, discuss the meaning of the words (see LISTENING). Always be aware of in-tune singing. Find mi-re-do on the end cadence and use solfa hand signs. Is there another place where the song almost says mi-re-do, but then doesn't? (Mi-mi-re-do-re at the end of the first "do remember me" line.) Find do-mi-sol when it occurs in the song ("rocky mountain high" and "do, do, do, do") then add the la. Use hand signs. Sing as a round, or partner with another pentatonic song.

## PLAYING

Add various instruments for sound effects. (A thunder tube, rain stick, ocean drum, and/or a wind tube work great on the "stormy ocean" verse.) Direct students to only play certain instruments on certain words, like thundering only on the word "stormy." Turn the rain stick over at the beginning of every phrase for sound effect. Add a wind tube or wind sounds on the chorus only ( or verse only). Be creative! Play do-mi-sol-la on a barred instrument or bells when it occurs on the song, and/or play mi-re-do on a different melodic instrument when it occurs.

## CREATING

Create a rhythmic or melodic ostinato like  or 

Create actions for the words of the verses. Act out the song. Teach rhythmic or melodic ostinato accompaniments using (pentatonic) do, re, mi, sol and la, or have the students improvise their own. Use the voice to make sound effects. Make up body movements for all verses.

## LISTENING

Discover the meaning of the words as you sing. What is this song about? Who is singing it? Where is someone going? Why would anyone say to "hang your head and cry?" What does "Do remember me" mean? Let students discover through reasoning. Discover the do-mi-sol-la parts of the song. Discover the mi-re-do parts of the song. How many phrases in the verse, how many phrases in the chorus, how many in the song?

## CURRICULUM INTEGRATION - Geography, Math, Language Arts

Find the Rocky Mountain range on a map. Where do you think the stormy ocean might be? Where would you find a sunny valley?

Sing math to this song like:  $1 + 1$  is al-ways 2 and  
 $2 + 2$  is 4;  
 $3 + 3$  is al-ways 6,  
And now let's do some more.

Make up your own verses for math, social studies, or science.