



### What is "Rock Our World"?

Hello fellow "Rockers!"

First, I want to tell you all how excited I am that you have chosen to join us in this very exciting project! I envision this project as a springboard that will bring many students from around the world together with a common focus: communication, storytelling, music and movies!

Here's how "Rock Our World" will work.

#### iSight Videoconferences

The most important aspect of ROW is communication. In this packet you are receiving a planning guide to iSight videoconferences. It is your responsibility to contact the other schools and schedule times for you to talk together. The teacher's e-mails are also included. I highly encourage you to take advantage of the ability to talk face-to-face with children all around the world. It is the power behind Rock Our World. We have within our grasp the ability to teach our students the value of communication. It is only through the process of communication that we will achieve peace in our world.

#### Storytelling

The second and third parts come together. This is the part of the project where the students share their creativity and personalities. Together we will share a "Story Spine" (included). Each country will begin a "Holiday/Christmas/Hanukkah" story. Every week on Friday, as your music travels around the world, your story will also travel. You will send both a music file (I'll talk about that below) and a short story- following the "Story Spine." The story will be passed on to the next country in the form of a Word Document. I am going to leave the length up to you. But I would like to request that no matter what length you choose that somewhere in your story you include some aspect of a tradition that you and your students keep during the holiday. (For example, you may want to include giving gifts, or lighting candles, etc.)

#### GarageBand

This is where it will take some organization on the part of the teachers involved! (Smile!)

There will be 10 classes involved with this project. Each week you will need to submit one track on Garage Band. Every song will be limited to 30 seconds in length. Please try to stay within this time boundary. Every Friday, beginning September 16<sup>th</sup>, you will have something due to send to another country. It will be very important that this is done on time, as many other countries are counting on you.

Week 1: September 12: Teacher Info materials due. Please fill out the information sheet and all press/media releases.

September 16: Track 1: **Drums:** The first track to Garage Band is due. Every one will be laying down **Drums**. This is very important. Choose carefully. It will set the mood and the genre of the song. If there is a percussion instrument that is representative of your holiday, please use that one. Remember, that your song will only be 30 seconds in length. We want the kids to enjoy this process and not have it too overbearing.

**Story:** "Once upon a time..."

Week 2: September 23: Track 2- **Bass Guitar** By this time, everyone will have heard another country's drum track. You can add any type or sound of Bass Guitar to their track.

**Story** "Every day..."

Week 3: September 30: Track 3- **Keyboard** Choose any type of Keyboard to add to the track.

**Story** "But one day..."

Week 4: October 7: Track 4- **Sound of the Season** Choose a specific sound that accompanies the season you are celebrating. It can be a traditional sound, a sound that reminds you of this holiday, or a sound that is always heard only during this season. Be creative!

**Story** "Because of that..."

Week 5: October 14: Track 5- **Creative Choice!!** Ohhh, it's a creative choice! Let's take full advantage of us all being from different parts of the world. Each of us has sounds that are very unique to our part of the planet. (For example, Hawaii may have a ukulele.) But it can be much more creative than that! If you are from a big city, play a trashcan! If you live near an ocean, get the sound of waves crashing! You can use a microphone with Garage Band, a microphone with an iPod, or a variety of ways. Use your imagination! And remember: "Think different!" or should I say, "Listen different!"

**Story** "Because of that..."

Week 6: October 21: Track 6- **Horns** any kind of brass instrument. Saxophone, trumpet, Harmonica, acoustic, cowbell...?

**Story** "Because of that..."

Week 7: October 28: Track 7- **Any Stringed Instrument** Choose a guitar, violin, piano, any instrument with strings.

**Story** "Because of that..."

Week 8: November 4: Track 8- **Percussion** Bongos, congas, claves, tambourine, maracas, triangles...

**Story** "Until finally..."

Week 9: November 11: Track 9- **Cultural Creative Choice** Choose a sound that relates specifically to your culture. If you live by the ocean, maybe it's the sound of the waves. If you have a traditional instrument that is native to your area, this would be a great track for it! Whatever it may be, have the sound be a sound that represents your culture.

**Story** "Ever since that day..."

Week 10: November 18: Track 10- **Sound of the Season!!** Wow! Again? Yes, again!

**Story** "The moral of the story is..."

You should have a completed song by today that has been collaborated on by children all around the world! Congratulations!

Week 11: November 25: Please turn in all students' holiday recipes. Students may turn in more than one. Please make sure that their name, country and name of the holiday is written on the recipe.

**Note on instruments:** You do not have to be a musician to play these instruments. Use the loops given in Garage Band. However, if your class would like to add original music, please do! We would all love to hear your original pieces! There is no limit to the creativity of your music!

You also do not need to fill the entire 30 seconds with the instrument. You may want to just include a sample of the instrument in special locations in the song.

**Most important are the time deadlines.** Each Friday you should be uploading your song to our iDisk. Please be punctual with your time frames, as we have, literally, a whole world waiting for you! That way the teacher can have the weekend to plan and the students will have their song ready to work on by Monday morning. You are accountable to the next teacher and class.

Whew! I think that is it! If you have any questions or comments, please-please-please e-mail me! I want this project to run smoothly and on time. If you know, in advance, that you will be out of school on a Friday, please try to finish your project by Thursday. Or have a trusted colleague help you with the Friday deadline. I realize that there are things that will come up. But if we can all try to be punctual, it will be easier to help those that have difficulties.

Thank you again for participating in this very exciting project! I just feel like something BIG is going to happen with this! There is a really positive energy here...and it all has to do with the awesome teachers who are involved! I look forward to reading and sharing all of your student's stories and adventures. I'm eager to hear about your schools and communities! And I'm so honored to work with each and every one of you! You're the best!

We will record our stories and use our original music as background to our stories at the end. You will end up with an audio-enhanced story for your students to share for many years!

Now, let's **"Rock Our World!"**

Carol Anne McGuire  
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