



## SONG OF THE MONTH

### SONG OF THE MONTH: "FROM THE GROUND UP"

Meets National Core Arts Standards 2, 7, and 9

#### OBJECTIVES

- Organize and develop artistic ideas and work (Cr2)
- Perceive and analyze artistic work (Re7)
- Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work (Re9)

#### MATERIALS

- *Music Alive!* magazines (May 2017)
- *Music Alive!* Classroom Worksheet #12: Staff Paper (download at [musicalive.com](http://musicalive.com))
- Computer or mobile device with Internet access
- Notation software (optional)
- Piano

#### START

1. Ask a student read the text on page 16.
- ▶ 2. Play "From the Ground Up" by Dan + Shay (Hear the Music **track 1** on [musicalive.com](http://musicalive.com)), while your students follow along with the notation on pages 16-17.

#### DEVELOP

##### ASK

- What's this song's time signature? (6/8.)
- Define the time signature. (There are six eighth notes, or two dotted quarter notes, per measure.)
- Is it in a major or minor key? (Major—A major.)
- Why is the key signature A major and not F# minor? (The song features more use of an A chord.)
- Name the different sections in the song. (Intro [not shown in notation], verse, chorus, interlude, and outro [not shown].)
- What's an interlude? (An instrumental passage between vocal sections.)
- Are all of the choruses the same length? (No, the last chorus is half as long as the first two.)
- What's the lowest vocal note? (The E on the bottom line of the staff.)
- What's the highest vocal note? (The E in the top space of the staff.)
- How far apart are those two notes? (An octave.)
- What are the chords with two letter names? (They're slash chords. The letter on the left is the chord to be played, while the letter on the right is the lowest note to be played.)
- Can anyone guess the purpose of a slash chord? (One purpose is that slash chords can make for smooth bass lines—the E/G# chord, for instance, helps provide a stepwise bass line [A to G# to F#] between the A, E/G#, and F#m7 chords. [Play this on the piano.]
- What's an m7 chord? (Minor seventh chord—minor triad with a minor seventh. [Play one on the piano.]

2. Work with the class on singing the song together.

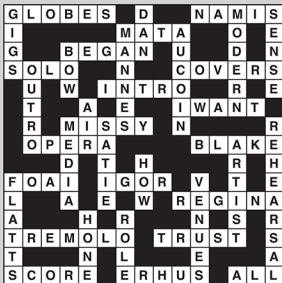
#### CLOSE

Hand out copies of the staff paper worksheet or have the students use notation software. Ask them to write short compositions and experiment with slash chords that connect root position chords, like in the chord progression of this song.

#### ASSESS

- Did the students answer the questions about "From the Ground Up"?
- Did they sing it together?
- Did they write compositions using slash chords?

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION



Crossword Puzzle can be found on page 7