

## UKE BOX

Steam Train

Activities in this pack:



Information



Activity 1 **Perform**

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**TSO**  
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## UKE BOX - Steam Train

UKE BOX features video performances of original songs, written and arranged by Tasmanian songwriter Eleanor Tucker. Each arrangement showcases orchestral instruments as well as encouraging ukulele players of all levels to have a go and play-along.

Chord and tab charts are displayed on screen, and each song is followed by an up-close demonstration of ukulele technique. Duplicate videos displaying song lyrics are available as well as support materials for free download, including lead sheets and notes for teachers.

*“Each song has been written with the ukulele in mind. I have tried to keep these parts as simple and accessible as possible (mainly 1 & 2 finger chords/ some pentatonic melodies) while simultaneously providing enough variety to retain interest, and extend playing technique.”*

Eleanor Tucker 2021



## Learning Steam Train

*“I have noticed there is always one student in a class or one person in the room who has, at some time, been obsessed with trains. Steam trains in particular seem to hold a strong fascination.*

*The flute, piccolo and voice ‘sing’ together as a train whistle, while the brass instruments signal the sound of a horn.”*

*Eleanor Tucker 2021*

Follow the links below to access the resources and instructional videos:

Watch [“Steam Train”](#) with ukulele chords and demonstration

Watch [“Steam Train”](#) with lyrics

[“Steam Train”](#) Lead Sheet

[“Steam Train”](#) Lyric Sheet

[“Steam Train”](#) Notes for Teachers



# "Steam Train"

♩ = 100

E. Tucker

*triangle!*

Voice

Oooh - Whoo! Oooh - Whoo!

7

Whoo! Whoo! Oooh - Whoo! I hear a

11

train. I hear a steam train. Must be an

15

old train. Might be a ghost train. And it's

19

com - ing to take me a - way on an ad -

21

ven-ture to a - no - ther place. I hear the whis-tle and I just can't

24

wait to get on board. I hear a train.

28

I hear a train.

31

39 *cue (brass):*

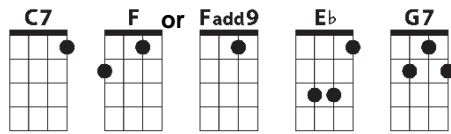
I hear a

47 **2**

train. I hear a train. I hear a train!

# “Steam Train”

Music and Lyrics by E. Tucker



Strumming Pattern: Down, Down, Tap, Tap

**C<sup>7</sup>**

I hear a train. I hear a steam train.

**F**

**C<sup>7</sup>**

Must be an old train. Might be a ghost train.

**E<sup>b</sup>**

**C<sup>7</sup>**

And it's coming to take me away

**E<sup>b</sup>**

**C<sup>7</sup>**

on an adventure to another place.

**E<sup>b</sup>**

**C<sup>7</sup>**

**G<sup>7</sup>**

I hear the whistle and I just can't wait to get onboard.\_\_\_\_ .

**C<sup>7</sup>**

I hear a train. I hear a train.

**(16 bar Instrumental break)**

**C<sup>7</sup> C<sup>7</sup> C<sup>7</sup> C<sup>7</sup> F F C<sup>7</sup> C<sup>7</sup>**

**E<sup>b</sup> C<sup>7</sup> E<sup>b</sup> C<sup>7</sup> E<sup>b</sup> C<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup>**

**C<sup>7</sup>**

I hear a train. I hear a train. I hear a train!

# “Steam Train”

## Notes for Teachers by Eleanor Tucker

<p><b>Chords</b></p> <p><b>C7</b></p> <p><b>F</b> or <b>Fadd9</b></p> <p><b>E<sup>b</sup></b>      <b>G7</b></p> <p><b>Strumming pattern:</b></p> <p><b>Down Down, Tap Tap</b> (can also be played as straight down beats).</p>	<p><i>Try improvising by using:</i></p> <p><b>C minor / blues pentatonic.</b></p> <p><b>C E<sup>b</sup> G<sup>b</sup> (F<sup>#</sup>) G B<sup>b</sup></b></p> <p><b>&amp;</b></p> <p><b>C Major pentatonic</b></p> <p><b>C D E G A</b></p> <p><i>Compare these scales.</i></p> <p><i>See practise exercise below.</i></p>	<p><b>Instruments featured in recording</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Piccolo</li> <li>○ Flute</li> <li>○ Bass Trombone</li> <li>○ Tuba</li> <li>○ Mighty Big Triangle</li> <li>○ Maracas</li> <li>○ Ukulele</li> <li>○ Vocals</li> </ul>	<p><b>Levels</b></p> <p>2 3 4</p> <p><b>Challenge</b> <i>Moving the ring and pinky fingers on and off the strings for the E<sup>b</sup> shape.</i></p> <p><i>Learning a new pentatonic scale.</i></p>
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### Pentatonic Exercise - Minor and Major

**C minor pentatonic**

Uke.

Uke.

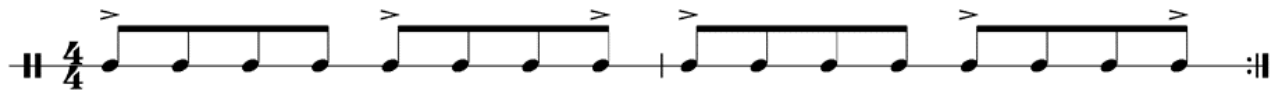
  

**C Major pentatonic**

Uke.

Uke.

### Maracas/ shakers:



### Chord changes (basic form is 16 bar blues)

### Composer's notes

This song follows a simple blues pattern (C<sup>7</sup>, F, E<sub>b</sub>, G<sup>7</sup>) with a minor 3<sup>rd</sup> (E<sub>b</sub>) thrown in to enhance the minor 3<sup>rd</sup> in the C minor pentatonic blues scale (C, E<sub>b</sub>, F, G, B<sub>b</sub>).

Rhythmically we introduce a new technique (strum strum, tap tap) which helps students learn to count rested beats)

I had fun thinking about how to use the instruments in a non-traditional way to create sound effects: The flute/piccolo and voice 'sing' together as a train whistle and the brass instruments 'hiss' then 'honk' the sound of a horn.