

## Chromatic Scale

A chromatic scale is a series of notes that moves up or down in half steps, or, on the guitar, one fret at a time without skipping any frets. You don't need to be able to read the new notes in this scale. You go up the scale by playing the open B string, then your first finger plays the first fret, your second finger plays the second fret, third finger plays the third fret, and fourth finger plays the fourth fret. You go back down the scale by playing the same frets and fingerings in reverse. As you play, focus on keeping your fingers curved and pressing down the string with your fingertips. Begin practicing the chromatic scale by playing each note four times while you alternate Right-Hand fingers. Then try three times, two times, and finally just one time for each note.



## Ring around the Rosy

Ring around the Rosy has one new note:

G is the 3rd string played open.



Ring a - round the ro - sy, poc - ket full of po - sies,  
ash - es, ash - es, all fall down.

## Improvisation I

Improvisation is the spontaneous creation of music from one's imagination. While there are no rules for improvising, using some structure and applying the notes, sounds and techniques we can execute with confidence helps us learn to connect our imagination to our instrument.

In this improvisation exercise, each student describes an accompaniment they imagine for their improvisation using descriptors like emotions, speed, intensity and density of notes, which their teacher can interpret into an accompaniment style and choice of chord (either G Major or E minor).

Students then improvise a short solo melody over their accompaniment using only these elements:

1. Notes: G, B, D and E
2. Any of the percussion sounds introduced in "Fire Dance"

There are no restrictions on rhythm. This exercise works well as an extension activity over the course of several class periods with 4 to 5 students taking a turn each session.