

Beginner Blues

Create an original blues song! Begin telling a story in line one. Make your words fit the beats. Repeat the words on line two (AAB rhyme scheme). Tell something new on the third line. The end of this line may or may not rhyme with line one. Add more verses to make your story last longer. Play and sing your blues song using a keyboard, or other pitched instruments, if you have them. Add tambourines, claps or other body percussion to enhance the performance. Each slash mark / represents one beat.

Feel Bad Blues

	1 st measure	2	3	4
4 4	/ / / /	/ / / /	/ / / /	/ / / /
	I (chord)	I	I	I ⁷

I woke up this morning_____ feeling kind of sad _____.

(student text sample)

	5	6	7	8
	/ / / /	/ / / /	/ / / /	/ / / /
	IV ⁻⁷	IV ⁻⁷	I	I

I woke up this morning_____ feeling kind of sad _____.

	9	10	11	12
	/ / / /	/ / / /	/ / / /	/ / / /
	V ⁷	IV ⁻⁷	I	I

It's all because_____ my little sister made me mad _____.

For keyboards or barred instruments, color code notes with post-it flags or stickers for the three chords. Use another color for notes of the blues scale on one or two separate instruments.

For example: I = red, IV = yellow, V = green; blues scale = blue.

Blues in G:

Blues Scale	I or I ⁷	IV or IV ⁻⁷	V or V ⁷
G B ^(b) C D F	G B D (F)	C E G (B ^b)	D F [#] A (C)