

## Figuring It Out

### Study Guide



We are a family band based in Bemidji, Minnesota. The music we play covers several genres of music from bluegrass to folk, and traditional to contemporary and much more. We hope you enjoy our music, and we look forward to connecting with you through music and education.

Traditional Bluegrass music is made up of 5 instruments:

- Fiddle
- Mandolin
- Banjo
- Upright Bass
- Guitar



#### Fiddle:

- 4 strings
- played with a bow
- no frets



#### Mandolin:

- same strings as a fiddle, but 2 of each = 8 strings
- played with a flat pick
- frets



#### Banjo:

- 5 strings
- played with finger picks
- frets



#### Upright Bass:

- 4 thick strings
- played with fingers or bow
- no frets



### Guitar:

- 6 strings
- played with a flat pick
- frets

Bluegrass music is a style of music that has been transformed over a number of years, originally coming from Ireland, Scotland and England, to the Appalachian Mountain Region of the United States.



Bill Monroe, from Kentucky – The Bluegrass State - is considered the 'Father of Bluegrass music'. He wrote many bluegrass songs, some of which you'll hear today.

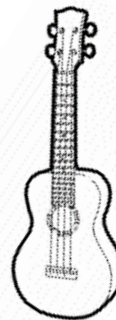
### More Instruments:

Even though the following instruments are not necessarily considered 'bluegrass' instruments, we personally enjoy them and love to include them in our music as a unique sound.



### Cello:

- 4 strings
- played with a bow
- can be played sitting or standing
- plays beautiful low tones
- no frets



### Ukulele:

- 4 strings
- played with a felt pick
- has a happy, light sound
- frets



### Banjolin:

This instrument is originally from the 1930s. It is played just like a mandolin (with 8 strings!) but with the sound of a banjo.