Weekly Focus: Bowing Patterns and Twinkle Rhythm Variations

Explanation of Lesson Focus:
This week we are focusing on the bow. This will include bow distribution – where to play! It will also include Bowing Vocabulary and Bow Rhythms. We will add all these parts into the song *Twinkle, Twinkle*.

Warm Up:
Below are 5 variations to try while bowing on your D string and on your A string. We have the rhythm variations written out in words and in notation. For variation one, say Mississippi Stop-Stop out loud and listen to the natural rhythm of the words you’re saying, then look down at the top left box in the rhythm box to see what that rhythm looks like in notation. Play this rhythm first on the D string and then on the A string. Then follow this process for each of the rhythm variations.

Variation 1 – Mississippi Stop-Stop
Variation 2 – Down Puppy Up Puppy
Variation 3 – Little Tiny Motorcycle
Variation 4 – 1 2 shh 4
Variation 5 – Trip-el-let Trip-el-let
Musical excerpt:
We’re going to practice the above bowing variations now on the musical excerpt *Twinkle, Twinkle*. Below are the note names written out as well as the notated music. Try playing through these notes with each of the above bowing variations.

**TWINKLE THEME**

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\begin{align*}
D & \quad D & \quad A & \quad A & \quad B & \quad B & \quad A - \\
G & \quad G & \quad F# & \quad F# & \quad E & \quad E & \quad D - \\
A & \quad A & \quad G & \quad G & \quad F# & \quad F# & \quad E - \\
& \quad A & \quad A & \quad G & \quad G & \quad F# & \quad F# & \quad E - \\
& \quad D & \quad D & \quad A & \quad A & \quad B & \quad B & \quad A - \\
G & \quad G & \quad F# & \quad F# & \quad E & \quad E & \quad D -
\end{align*}
\]
Bowing Diagram
Below is a diagram of the bow broken down into 4 sections, into 3 sections, and into 2 sections. The length of a section when the bow has been broken into 4ths is the length you would use for a sixteenth note, the length of a 3rd of the bow is the length you would use for a triplet and the length of half the bow is what you would use for an eighth note.