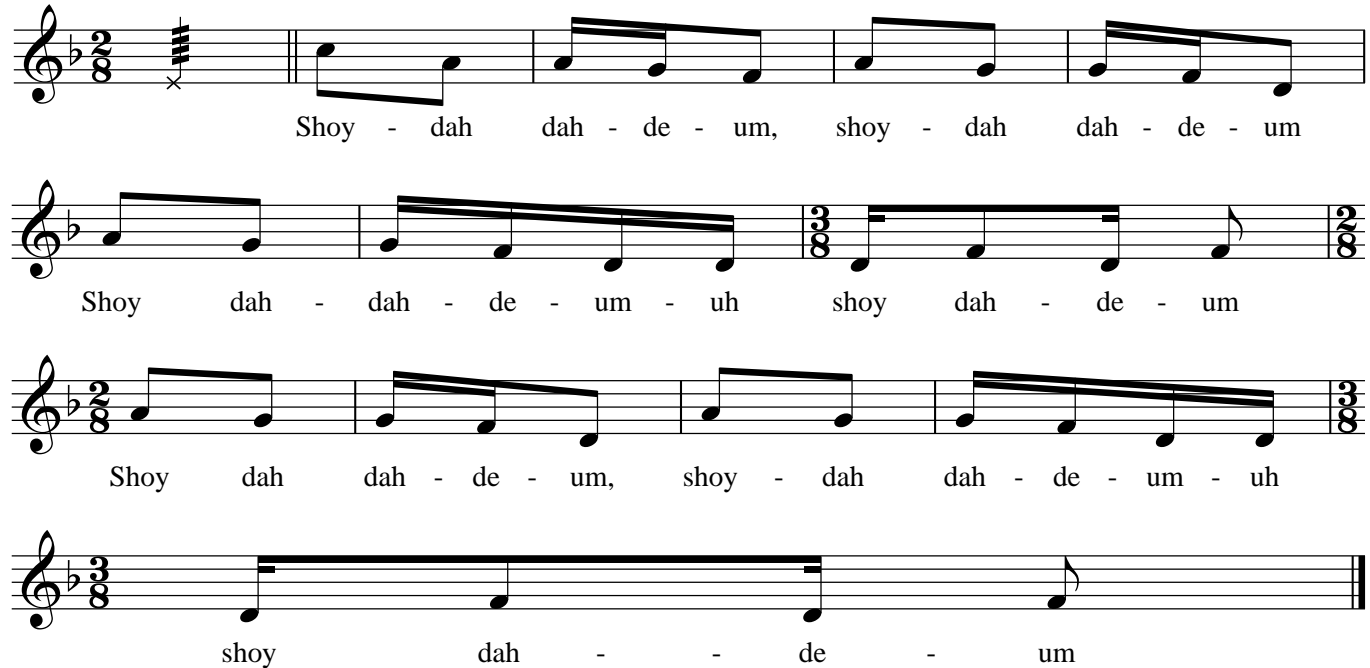


# Choctaw Raccoon Game Song

Informant/Performer:  
Louis W. Ballard

Source:  
Louis W. Ballard  
*American Indian Music for the Classroom*  
Canyon Records 4143

♩ = 120 Introduction  
Tremolo on sticks



The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first staff begins with a 2/8 time signature, followed by a double bar line and a 3/8 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some slurs. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and includes a 3/8 time signature change. The third staff also includes a 3/8 time signature change. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a 3/8 time signature and a double bar line.

Shoy - dah dah - de - um, shoy - dah dah - de - um

Shoy dah - dah - de - um - uh shoy dah - de - um

Shoy dah dah - de - um, shoy - dah dah - de - um - uh

shoy dah - - de - um

## Background Information

The Choctaws were originally located in what is now the state of Mississippi. Today Choctaws of Mississippi, comprising about 6,000 in population, are located near Philadelphia, Pearl River, Conehatta and Bogue Chitto; while their brothers, the Oklahoma Choctaws are located in southeastern Oklahoma. Cultural habits and customs of the Choctaw traditionally include blow guns for hunting, poison darts, swamp fishing, stick ball games (similar to lacrosse), and many activities related to hunting. This song, the Choctaw Raccoon Game Song, represents a hunting activity in which the hound dog is chasing the raccoon through the swamps and trees of the forests in Mississippi.