

Recorded by LOUIS ARMSTRONG  
**What A Wonderful World**

Words and Music by  
**GEORGE DAVID WEISS and BOB THIELE**  
Arranged by RICK STITZEL

**TEACHING AIDS For The Director:**

This beautiful swing ballad was popularized by Louis Armstrong and has become a classic in the jazz literature. It should be performed with a swing feel, with strong 12/8 implications.

The section starting at meas. 3 can be played as a trumpet solo or by the entire trumpet section as a unison section feature. The same is true for trombones at meas. 11. Meas. 19 starts with a saxophone soli, and should be played with a full sound. As always, use good musical judgement and don't allow students to overblow. The trumpet solo or unison ensemble idea returns at meas. 27.

Work for good ensemble blend, and pay careful attention to dynamics. This chart should be a real crowd pleaser, and will expose your students to a classic jazz ballad.

**UNISON PATTERNS**

**A** (SWING BALLAD (12/8 FEEL) ♩ = 72) (♩ =  $\frac{3}{4}$ ) **B**

The musical score is arranged in five systems, each with a label on the left: GUITAR (Opt.), PIANO, BASS (Opt.), and DRUMS. The first system contains the main melody and bass line. The second system is for GUITAR (Opt.), the third for PIANO, and the fourth for BASS (Opt.). The fifth system is for DRUMS, featuring a pattern of eighth notes with triplets and a 'SIM.' (simplified) section. The score is in 4/4 time with a 12/8 feel, indicated by the tempo marking. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into two sections, A and B, with section B starting at measure 6. Section A contains measures 1-5, and section B contains measures 6-10. The melody is primarily in the right hand, with a bass line in the left hand. The piano part features a steady accompaniment with triplets. The bass part features a steady accompaniment with triplets. The drums feature a pattern of eighth notes with triplets and a 'SIM.' section.