

Grades K-5 Music

Overview for Parents

Teacher: Megan Helm (K-3)
Mark Nelson (4-8)

Expectations for All Students

- Following directions and classroom rules
- Having enthusiasm for classroom activities
- Participating in performances

Content Goals

Kindergarten

- Understanding the beat/pulse
- Differentiating between slow/fast and high/low
- Matching pitch
- Echoing rhythms and patterns
- Learning how to listen (specific unit: Camille Saint-Saens' Carnival of the Animals)
- Singing in unison
- Structured and creative movement

First Grade

- Reinforcing the beat/pulse
- Understanding high/low and slow/fast
- Matching pitch (sol, mi, la)
- Rhythmic reading (quarter notes, rests, and eighth notes)
- Continuing to work on listening skills by playing instruments
- Listening to various types of music (specific units: Peter and the Wolf, Louis Armstrong, and the opera Hansel and Gretel)
- Identifying the instrument families
- Developing repertoire
- Structured and creative movement
- Singing in unison

Second Grade

- Mastering the beat/pulse
- Understanding dynamics and tempo
- Matching pitch (sol, mi, la, do, fa)
- Rhythmic reading (quarter notes, rests, and eighth, half, whole notes)
- Introduction to the treble staff
- Continuing to work on listening skills by playing instruments
- Listening to various types of music (specific units: Vivaldi's Four Seasons, Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony)
- Identifying the instrument families
- Developing repertoire
- Structured and creative movement
- Singing in unison and rounds

Third Grade

- Understanding dynamics and tempo
- Singing in tune
- Rhythmic reading (quarter notes, rests, and eighth, half, whole, sixteenth notes)
- Simple ensemble work
- Recognition of musical form (AB, ABA, Rondo)
- Reinforcement of notation for the treble staff

- Continuing to work on listening skills by playing instruments
- Listening to various types of music (specific units: Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake, John Philip Sousa, Aaron Copland)
- Identifying instruments
- Developing repertoire
- Structured and creative movement
- Singing in unison, rounds and partner songs

Fourth Grade

- Understanding musical vocabulary
- Singing in tune
- Differentiating between duple and triple meter
- Rhythmic reading (quarter notes, rests, dotted half, eighth, half, whole, sixteenth notes)
- Ensemble work
- Recognition of musical form (AB, ABA, Rondo)
- Continuing to work on notation for the treble staff
- Continuing to work on listening skills by playing instruments (recorder introduced)
- Listening to various types of music (specific units: Mozart's Magic Flute, Handel's Messiah, Haydn's Surprise Symphony, Beethoven, music of the Middle Ages)
- Identifying instruments and vocal ranges
- Developing repertoire
- Structured and creative movement
- Singing in unison, rounds, partner songs, and simple two-part harmony

Fifth Grade

- Understanding musical vocabulary
- Singing in tune
- Differentiating between duple and triple meter
- Rhythmic reading (basic note values excluding dotted quarter and eighth notes)
- Introduction to composing
- Ensemble work
- Recognition of musical form (AB, ABA, Rondo)
- Mastering notation for the treble staff
- Continuing to work on listening skills by playing instruments (recorder continued)
- Listening to various types of music (Renaissance, Mussorgsky, Mendelssohn, spirituals)
- Identifying instruments and vocal ranges
- Developing repertoire
- Structured and creative movement
- Singing in unison, rounds, partner songs, and two-part harmony

Contacting the Teacher

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