

Eighth Grade Music Class Unit Concept Overview

I. Exploring Music

- A. Active/Inactive Listening
- B. Elements of Music
- C. Listening Experiences
 - 1. teacher and student generated
 - 2. according to set process
- D. Popular Music
 - 1. students summarize pop music
 - 2. school appropriate
- E. Music Enrichment Lab
 - 1. use of equipment
 - 2. rules contract

II. Careers in Music

- A. Composer
 - 1. Room Sound Compositions
- B. Conductor
 - 1. score reading
 - 2. conducting patterns
- C. Performer
 - 1. amateur/professional
 - 2. record labeling
- D. Recording Technician
 - 1. the recording process
 - 2. how recordings are made
 - 3. record class performance of selected sound compositions
- E. Music Critic
 - 1. professional criticism contains good and bad points
 - 2. students write critique of class performance
- F. Other Music Careers

III. Rhythm

- A. Review of rhythmic notation
- B. Performance of rhythmic notation
- C. Rhythmic Improvisation

IV. Melody

- A. Review of pitch notation
- B. Melodic contour
- C. Performance of notated melody
 - 1. using handchimes
 - 2. singing
 - 3. keyboards
- D. Intervals
 - 1. identify written/aural
 - 2. half/step whole step
- E. Scales
 - 1. major
 - 2. minor
 - 3. whole-tone
 - 4. pentatonic

V. Harmony

- A. Texture
 - 1. monophonic
 - 2. homophonic
 - 3. polyphonic
 - 4. mixed texture

- B. Chords
 - 1. triads
 - 2. block/broken
- C. Basic harmony rules

VI. Form in Composition

- A. Repetition and Contrast
- B. ABA Form
- C. Sonata-Allegro
- D. Theme and Variations

VII. The Voice

- A. Proper singing techniques
- B. Styles of singing
- C. Changing adolescent voices
- D. Students perform singing activities
 - 1. individually
 - 2. chorally
 - 3. significant literature

VIII. Handchimes

- A. Performance techniques
- B. Students perform handchime activities
 - 1. record performances

IX. Keyboards

- A. Identification of keys
- B. Melody
 - 1. scales
 - 2. playing single note melodies
- C. Harmony
 - 1. triads
 - 2. playing melodies plus triads

X. Composition

- A. Compositional technique
- B. Sequential composition activities
 - 1. performing compositions
- C. Composition project

XI. Music History Overview

- A. Baroque
- B. Classical
- C. Romantic
- D. Impressionism
- E. 20th Century