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
   G. Romantic
   D. Impressionism
   E. 20th Century