

Essential Learnings
Essential Knowledge, Skills, Topics, Processes, and Concepts

Standard 1

Students will sing alone and/or with others a varied repertoire of music.

Enduring Understanding Singing is a fundamental and universal form of expression that requires active listening skills and physical production. Singing instrumental parts internalizes rhythmic and melodic accuracy.	Essential Question How can singing aid instrument playing?
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Essential Learnings

Sings sections of instrumental music while other students sing or play contrasting parts.

- a) Sings accurately with appropriate style
- b) Sings with accurate intonation, phrasing, and articulation
- c) Sings in combinations of mixed music

Key Academic Vocabulary: style, intonation, phrasing, articulation

Standard 2

Students will perform on pitched and non-pitched classroom instruments, alone and/or with others, a varied repertoire of music.

Enduring Understanding	Essential Question
Playing an instrument is a fundamental and universal form of expression that requires active listening skills and physical production	How does self-discipline contribute to advanced level and higher quality performances?

Essential Learnings

Performs with appropriate technique, expressive qualities and ensemble skills.

- a) Demonstrates self discipline as it pertains to preparation
- b) Performs in keys that are appropriate
- c) Performs chromatic scale over full range of instrument
- d) Performs accurately in time signatures and mixed meters
- e) Demonstrates a variety of articulations
- f) Performs in small ensembles with one student on a part
- g) Performs with elements of tension/release and redundancy/revelation
- h) Performs music with a level of rigor according to the appropriate NYSSMA Level (I-VI)
- i) Uses a variety of timbre effects and performs in tessitura

Key Academic Vocabulary: Double-tongue, triple-tongue, breath attacks, spiccato, sforzando, loure, flaurando, staccato, legato, advanced stick techniques, tension/release, redundancy/revelation, shifting, harmonics, embellishments, tessitura.

Standard 3

Students will create, improvise, and/or compose music.

Enduring Understanding Composing and improvising are creative activities that explore an connect ideas with symbols, sound patterns, and musical elements.	Essential Question How does one improvise harmonizing parts?
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Essential Learnings

Improvise harmonizing parts

- a) Creates a musical idea that uses appropriate pitches and style

Key Academic Vocabulary: Harmony, variations

Standard 4

Students will read and notate music.

Enduring Understanding Reading and notating music enable students to comprehend and express the universal language of music.	Essential Question How is music read and notated?
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Essential Learnings

Reads and writes more complex musical ideas

- a) Sight-reads accurately and expressively at an appropriate NYSSMA Level I-VI
- b) Reads a vocal or instrumental score
- c) Identifies terms and symbols from repertoire being studied
- d) Interprets non-standard notational symbols used in some modern works
- e) Read and perform in other scale patterns

Key Academic Vocabulary: Score, staves, scale, whole-tone scale, blues

Standard 5

Students will listen to, analyze and describe music.

Enduring Understanding Musicianship is developed through listening to and analyzing music.	Essential Question How can the characteristics of music be analyzed and described?
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Essential Learnings

Analyzes musical events

- a) Utilizes technical vocabulary of music
- b) Identifies and explains compositional devices and techniques used to provide unity, variety, tension, and release.
- c) Perceives and remembers musical events
- d) Describes in detail significant musical events
- e) Compare ways in which musical materials are used within varied works of the same genre or style

Key Academic Vocabulary: Consonance/dissonance, genre, compositional devices, unity, variety

Standard 6

Students will evaluate music and music performances.

Enduring Understanding Music is a living art form that can be evaluated in different ways.	Essential Question What criteria can be used to evaluate the quality of a music performance or composition?
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Essential Learnings

Evaluates compositions and performances for effectiveness in communicating musical intent

- a) Determines what elements contribute to the quality of performance or composition
- b) Explains the musical means it uses to evoke feelings and emotions

Key Academic Vocabulary: Musical intent, aesthetics

Standard 7

Students will understand relations among music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.

Enduring Understanding	Essential Question
Music is connected to all other academic disciplines.	How does music relate to other subject areas?

Essential Learnings

Articulates the connection between music and other core subjects

- a) Articulates relationship between music and math
- b) Describes relationship of composers, arrangers, and music being performed to historical events and timelines
- c) Demonstrates understanding of physical properties of the major instrument
- d) Describes literary interpretation of musical phrases

Key Academic Vocabulary: Shape, serial music, minimalism

Standard 7

Students will understand music in relation to history and culture.

Enduring Understanding Music relates to history and culture	Essential Question How does music reflect history and culture?
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Essential Learnings

Performs and listens to pieces from various cultures and time periods

- a) Identifies characteristics of periods of music history and genres
- b) Identifies and explains the stylistic features of a given work that serve to define its aesthetic tradition and its historical or cultural context

Key Academic Vocabulary: Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Modern, Aesthetics

Suggested Timelines

Topic	Suggested Timeframe
Contrasting Parts	Embedded throughout the course
Style, intonation, phrasing, articulation	
Technique	
Expressive Qualities	
Ensemble Skills	
Level I-VI Music	
Improvises Harmonizing Parts	
Reads Scores	
Sight Reading Level I-VI	
Repertoire Terms and Symbols	
Technical Vocabulary	
Compositional Devices/Techniques	
Musical Intent	
Music Related to Math	
Music History	
Events/Timelines	
Physical Properties of Instruments	
Periods of Music History	
Melodic Variations	
Scale Patterns	
Aesthetic Tradition	