



Pearson

Exploring Music III

Course Summary:

Designed for students in grades 6–8, this course enhances the student's knowledge of musical cultures as he or she discovers a musical identity. Aligning to the National Core Arts Standards, this course provides the student with engaging opportunities to combine musical knowledge with an exploration of different art forms to create new personal works. The student will apply foundational knowledge of music to a variety of musical styles and cultures. With audio, visual, and interactive technologies, this course provides a unique and advanced learning experience. Exploring Music I and Exploring Music II are prerequisites for this course.

Course Outline

1. Creative Foundations

1. Back to the Top
 - Identify what elements make up music
 - Describe different types of music and what makes them similar
 - Identify the role musicians play in society today and throughout history
2. Writing a Groovy Beat
 - Articulate and produce a steady beat
 - Differentiate between whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes in simple rhythms
 - Sing a variety of rhythmic patterns
 - Identify and compare time signatures
 - Read and count rhythmic patterns in duple and triple meter
3. Silence Is Golden
 - Identify rhythmic notation for rests
 - Play and sing different rhythmic patterns that incorporate a variety of rests
4. Staff Meeting
 - Identify notes across multiple staves
 - Compose a variety of melodic patterns
5. One Step at a Time
 - Identify the difference between whole and half steps
 - Apply pertinent vocabulary in the appropriate context
 - Design melodies aligned with guidelines
6. Major and Minor Keys
 - Describe the qualities of major and minor scales
 - Construct minor scales based on their key signature
 - Identify key signatures
 - Transform a scale into its parallel major or minor
7. Making Melodies
 - Identify tools composers use to create melodies

- Analyze the components of a compelling melody
- 8. Major League
 - Create major chords using provided criteria
 - Identify the three notes necessary to create a major chord
- 9. Minor Changes
 - Create minor chords using provided criteria
 - Identify the three notes necessary to create a minor chord
 - Compare the tonal qualities of minor and major chords
- 10. In Harmony
 - Compose diatonic chord progressions using major and minor chords
 - Analyze the relationship between scales and chords
- 11. Musical Communication
 - Analyze a composer's artistic intentions through a composition
 - Demonstrate advanced composition techniques
 - Create an original work including melody and harmony
- 12. Arrangements
 - Arrange an existing piece of music
- 13. Unit 1 Review
- 14. Unit 1 Test

2. A Musician's Role

1. Different Roles
 - Describe the relationship among the composer, performer, and listener
 - Identify and describe the specific role of the composer, performer, and listener
2. The Composer
 - Describe the relationship between the composer and the listener
 - State questions a composer might consider while composing music
 - Compose a piece of music based on a select criteria
3. Understanding the Performer
 - Identify and describe the role of the performer in the music community
 - Compare performances given by different musicians and identify which element each musician altered to make each performance
4. Practicing Performance
 - Use dynamics, phrasing, and other elements of music
 - Play music in three parts on the treble and bass staves
 - Demonstrate appropriate performance practices consistently
5. The Listener
 - Identify characteristics of an active listener
 - Conclude which listening habits are characteristic of active listening
 - Use active listening skills to identify distinct characteristics and features of a piece of music
6. Composing Your World
 - Identify possible sources of inspiration
 - Analyze and appraise objects, people, and events in your own life as possible inspirations for music compositions
7. Enhanced Listening
 - Evaluate a musical composition with select criteria
 - Analyze program music for musical elements used by a composer to portray the stated story or mood of the music

8. A Musical Society
 - Assess and evaluate the value of music to multimedia projects
 - Attribute descriptions to musical passages based on given criteria
9. Spontaneous Compositions
 - Compare and describe the differences and similarities between the music material from a non-improvised passage and an improvised passage in a song
 - Improvise melodies based on a select criteria
10. Improvisation
 - Improvise sixteen-measure melodic and rhythmic phrases
11. Unit 2 Review
12. Unit 2 Test

3. The Art of Music

1. You Be the Judge
 - Understand how to compare and contrast musical works across time periods
 - Evaluate a musical performance
2. Everyone's a Critic
 - Create a personal set of criteria for evaluating music
 - Evaluate musical performances based on a personal set objective and subjective criteria
3. Apples and Oranges
 - Describe similarities or differences between works across genres
 - Understand how genres and idioms are defined by characteristics
4. Tradition vs. Innovation
 - Identify factors that drive innovation in music
 - Compose a piece of music based on given criteria
 - Describe how technology shapes music
5. Movers and Shakers
 - Predict future changes in the practice of music
 - Identify contributions made by individual composers
 - Perform a period piece of music
6. Impressionism
 - Compare multiple forms of art from the same period
 - Describe characteristic traits within a given period
7. Modernism
 - Match composers with music characteristic of their era
 - Describe how music relates to world events
8. Popular Music
 - Develop criteria for evaluating popular music
 - Identify works that are characteristic of modern popular music
9. Current Artistic Communities
 - Describe how different artistic communities influence one another
 - Identify social contributions of artistic communities
 - Improvise melodies within given criteria
10. Technology in Music
 - Compare and contrast current and older technology
 - Identify how technology influences the arts
11. Artistic Influence
 - Evaluate artistic works from different fields

- Compare musical works from different eras
- 12. Derivative Works
 - Evaluate works from a variety of artistic disciplines
 - Create a derivative work
 - Identify ways in which the arts are connected
- 13. Music and Movement
 - Interpret a musical composition through movement
 - Illustrate musical forms, meters, and patterns using movement
 - Describe how choreography is used to express emotion and communicate
- 14. Digital Citizenship
 - Explain digital citizenship skills related to intellectual property and music
 - Apply digital citizenship skills related to intellectual property and music
- 15. Unit Review
- 16. Unit Test

4. **Musical Cultures**

1. Purpose of Music
 - Understand and evaluate personal uses of music
 - Develop criteria for assessing purposes of music
2. Music, Culture, and Language
 - Describe how the purpose of music differs across cultures
 - Identify how cultural traditions influence composers
 - Identify the origin of a piece of music based on its characteristics
 - Describe how culture influences creative works
3. Folk Forms
 - Describe similarities of instruments from different cultures
 - Create improvised melodies over a given chord progression
 - Identify cultures associated with pieces of music
 - Use body percussion to make music
4. A Shared Heritage
 - Analyze instrument designs across cultures
5. Cultures Today
 - Describe the relationship between art and society
 - Understand characteristics of different genres of music
6. Your Own Drum
 - Develop criteria for assessing different musical works
 - Analyze what you like or dislike about a given musical work
7. The Future of Music
 - Predict the course of future music
 - Relate current events to future outcomes
 - Identify the role technology plays in musical advancement
 - Solve creative challenges through asking questions about and investigating music ideas and concepts
8. Play It Out
 - Play increasingly difficult music with different ensembles using traditional and nontraditional instruments
9. Musical Cultures Review
 - Review the learning objectives for the unit
10. Musical Cultures Test