

**Northwestern School Corporation**  
**Music Curriculum**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Grade Course Outline**

Singing

Students will:

- Match a given pitch or pitch pattern.
- Sing on pitch while maintaining a steady beat.
- Sing music with high and low pitches.
- Sing music with loud and soft dynamic levels.
- Sing music in different languages and from various cultures.
- Sing and sign all pitches in the major scale using the Kodaly System.
- Sing alone and in a group using good posture and breathing technique.
- Learn about and experiment with vocal sounds such as whisper, whistle, and percussive sounds.

Playing Instruments

Students will:

- Echo a short rhythmic pattern.
- Play a simple ostinato while keeping a steady beat.
- Play a variety of percussion instruments with correct technique.
- Play an instrument alone and with a group.
- Experiment with body percussion and environmental sounds.

Reading, Notating and Interpreting Music

Students will:

- Read, notate and perform notation which includes quarter and eighth note in 4 beat patterns.
- Read, notate and perform notation which includes the quarter rest in 4 beat patterns.
- Read, notate and perform notation which includes half note and rest, whole note and rest.
- Read and sing pitch patterns using solfege syllables form hand signs and the music staff.
- Write quarter note, quarter rest, and eighth rest as part of dictation exercises.
- Notate simple pitch patterns in solfege as part of dictation exercises.

Improvising Melodies and Accompaniments

Students will:

- Respond, either on an instrument or by singing, to teacher given “questions”.
- Sing a short improvised melody.
- Invent and perform a short rhythmic ostinato.

Composing and Arranging

Students will:

- Compose a melodic or rhythmic pattern using traditional and non-traditional sounds.
- Compose, with members of a group, a four measure rhythmic piece in 4/4 time.
- Perform with members of a group, an original student piece in 4/4 time.

Listening to, Analyzing, and Describing Music

Students will:

- Identify a sound as having beat or no beat.
- Identify music as being fast/slow, loud/soft, short/long, and high/low.
- Identify a melody as moving upward or downward.
- Depict musical concepts and changes with hand motions, body movements, verbal descriptions or symbols.

- Study and respond with movement to music that moves by step, leap and repeat.
- Study various vocal timbres (male/female, adult/child) and identify their source.
- Identify ten classroom percussion instruments by sight and sound and describe the correct way to play each.
- Identify, by sight and sound, simple rhythmic patterns, selecting from choices.
- Identify, by sight and sound, simple melodic patterns, selecting from choices.

### Understanding Relationships Between Music and Other Disciplines

Students will:

- Learn the connection between notation and math with respect to notation and duration.
- Learn the connection between storytelling/lyrics and language arts.
- Make simple rhymes as part of composing and language arts connection.
- Study stories and program music.
- Learn the connection between dance and PE.
- Draw pictures while listening to various styles of music that depict mood and imagery.

### Understanding Music in Relation to History and Culture

Students will:

- Study, play and identify instruments from various cultures including; Native American, Asian and Latin.
- Sing and play instruments with ethnic music form various cultures around the world.
- Learn and perform folk dances from various cultures around the world.
- Discuss music for special occasions as they relate to a specific cultural tradition other than American.
- Play singing games from various cultures around the world.
- Sing and play music for special occasions and holidays in the American Tradition.

### Evaluating Music and Music Performances

Students will:

- Listen and discuss recorded music by using musical vocabulary words.
- Critique a musical performance by using musical vocabulary.
- Discuss likes and dislikes of a performance.

### Performance

Students will:

- Sing, play an instrument and dance for peers as part of classroom performances.
- Perform a memorized song, for an outside audience, using good stage presence.
- Exhibit good behavior including encouragement for performers during programs and concerts.

### Movement

Students will:

- Use a variety of body movements to depict musical concepts and changes in music.
- Use tiptoe, walk, march, leap, and running to show musical concepts of tempo, dynamics and style.
- Students will learn a variety of ethnic and popular dance movements to accompany music.