

GRADES 1 & 2 MUSIC

The purpose of the Grade 1 and 2 Music curriculum is to feature activities and listening materials that illustrate important musical concepts, and to allow students to discover for themselves the joy of listening to and making music. Students develop a strong sense of self-assurance by mastering a set of skills that can be used anywhere.

Activities include:

- Folk dancing: partner cooperation, coordination, and respect
- Understanding of rhythmic elements: beats, measures, rests, tempo
- Learning to sing a wide variety of age-appropriate songs as a group
- Movement activities which incorporate good motor skills and rhythm awareness
- Musical games which foster teamwork and cooperation among the students
- Music appreciation: listening to and discussing a wide variety of different types of music
- Opportunities to sing solo to the entire class
- Rhythm exercises using an assortment of instruments (maracas, tambourines, sticks, etc.)
- Introduction to orchestral and non-orchestral instruments and families
- Exposure to well-known purveyors of children's music (Burl Ives, Hap Palmer, Dr. Jean, etc.); students also learn to identify these performers by their voices and musical styles
- Students continue to develop their ability to identify and describe basic elements of music (e.g. high/low, fast/slow, loud/soft, beat)

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