

7th and 8th Grade Band

Grades 7 - 8, .5 Credits

Course Overview

7th and 8th Grade Band is a large group ensemble designed to provide students with a cooperative, artistic, and highly disciplined outlet for self-expression and personal growth, as well as laying the groundwork for life-long musical appreciation and involvement. Students will be exposed to classical, pop, jazz, and modern music throughout the course. In addition to large group instruction 2 or 3 times a week, each band member receives weekly private lessons, at which individual needs are addressed and extra help given. Since playing an instrument is a cumulative skill, it is expected that more experienced students demonstrate increasingly more advanced levels of musicianship. Regular performances include 2 concerts and 1-2 parades per school year, large group concert band festival or clinic, and Solo Ensemble Festival. Students in 7th and 8th grade band can also elect to participate in the LCMS Jazz Ensemble which meets outside of the school day.

Timeframe	Unit	Instructional Topics
5 Weeks	Music Review	Music Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bb scale • Play dotted quarter notes • Play with slurs • Key signature of Concert F • Perc: repeated measure notation • Rolls
3 Weeks	Christmas Parades	Marching Band <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March Forward, Mark time and Halt • Posture when standing at Attention and playing • Music memorization
7 Weeks	Winter Concert	Concert Pieces - <i>pieces change each year</i> Reading music; playing notes and rhythms; playing instrument independently; playing instrument in a group
7 Weeks	Solo Ensemble	Solo Ensemble Pieces - <i>pieces change each year</i> Students are in a percussion, brass or woodwind ensemble Reading music; playing notes and rhythms; playing instrument independently; playing instrument in a group
8 Weeks	Spring Concert	Concert Pieces - <i>pieces change each year</i> Reading music; playing notes and rhythms; playing instrument independently; playing instrument in a group

8 Weeks	Cheesefest Parade	Marching Band <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● March Forward, Mark time and Halt ● Posture when standing at Attention and playing ● Music memorization
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Successful completion of 6th Grade Band or consent of instructor.

Materials and Resources

- Essential Elements 2000 (Book 2)
- Instrument
- Pencil
- * Black, 3 Ring Binder

Unit: Music Review– 5 weeks

Description

During this unit, students will review music literacy topics from the previous school year. As an ensemble, we will play various exercises and songs from the Essential Elements Book 2 as well as new sheet music.

TOPIC: Music Review [5 weeks]

Description

Students will review music skills from the previous year and begin expanding on their music skills.

Learning Targets

- Students will play a B flat scale.
- Students will play dotted quarter note rhythms.
- Students will play slurs and other articulation markings.
- Students will play in the key of concert F

UNIT: Christmas Parades- 3 weeks

Description

During this unit, students will learn and memorize the parade song (Merry Christmas March) and learn how to march.

TOPIC: Marching Band [3 weeks]

Description

Students will play and memorize the parade song (Merry Christmas March) and learn how to march.

Learning Targets

- Students will march with a roll step forward.
- Students will learn proper horn posture at attention, marking time and while playing
- Students will mark time and halt
- Students will memorize the parade song (Merry Christmas March)

UNIT: Winter Concert– 7 weeks

Description

During this unit, students will learn concert repertoire for the Winter concert. Depending on the group, they will prepare 2-3 songs of varying difficulty for the concert.

TOPIC: Concert Pieces [7 weeks]

Description

Students will be exposed to music from various genres, styles, and cultures.

Learning Targets

Students will study music from other cultures.
Students will study music from various styles and genres.
Students will continue note and rhythm reading skills
Students will interpret stylistic markings (dynamics, articulations, tempo, etc)
Students will develop ensemble skills.

Ensemble Skills:

- Breath
- Posture
- Tone
- Intonation
- Balance
- Style
- Technique
- Dynamics
- Stage Presence
- Self Reflection

UNIT: Solo Ensemble– 7 weeks

Description

During this unit, students will be in either a percussion, brass or woodwind ensemble. They will prepare a small ensemble piece for Solo ensemble. They will be exposed to small ensemble music which has a different group sound compared to a full concert band.

TOPIC: Solo Ensemble Pieces [7 weeks]

Description

Students will be exposed to music written for small brass, woodwinds or percussion ensembles.

Learning Targets

Students will study music related to their instrument section
Students will continue note and rhythm reading skills
Students will interpret stylistic markings (dynamics, articulations, tempo, etc)
Students will develop ensemble skills.

Ensemble Skills:

- Breath
- Posture
- Tone
- Intonation
- Balance
- Style
- Technique
- Dynamics
- Stage Presence
- Self Reflection

UNIT: Spring Concert– 8 weeks

Description

During this unit, students will learn concert repertoire for the Spring concert. Depending on the group, they will prepare 3-4 songs of varying difficulty for the concert.

TOPIC: Concert Pieces [8 weeks]

Description

Students will be exposed to music from various genres, styles, and cultures.

Learning Targets

Students will study music from other cultures.
Students will study music from various styles and genres.
Students will continue note and rhythm reading skills
Students will interpret stylistic markings (dynamics, articulations, tempo, etc)
Students will develop ensemble skills.

Ensemble Skills:

- Breath

- Posture
- Tone
- Intonation
- Balance
- Style
- Technique
- Dynamics
- Stage Presence
- Self Reflection

UNIT: Cheesefest Parade– 8 weeks

Description

During this unit, students will learn and memorize the parade song, (On Wisconsin) and continue refining their marching skills from the Christmas Parade unit.

TOPIC: Marching Band [8 weeks]

Description

Students will play and memorize the parade song (On Wisconsin) and refine marching skills.

Learning Targets

Students will march with a roll step forward.

Students will learn proper horn posture at attention, marking time and while playing

Students will mark time and halt

Students will memorize the parade song (On Wisconsin)