

My Grade 8 ArtsAround Short Range Plan for Cycle 'A' Music

Submitted by: _____ Principal's Name: _____ Date: _____

~10+ -weeks of Music followed by Dance, then Drama with 10+ lessons . A Short-Range Plan for each subject area is provided prior to the starting time. This short-term plan is for Music.

MUSIC

September

Lesson # 1 & 2: Drum Circle: Lots of fun percussion games such as: A Crazy Rhythms Game; The Art and Heart of Drum Circles; Active Rhythmology; Kalani's Echo Game; Rumble to a Groove; Pieces of Eight; Chant & Movement. Syncopation is studied and demonstrated. Quite the opening fun packed lessons indeed!

Music: *Shake it Off!* And *Drum Circle Song*. **Featured Artist:** Taylor Swift

October

Lesson # 3: Reading Rhythms and Notes: The Physical Literacy opening gets the kids energized. After playing the Crazy Rhythm Games from last week, the students review note reading on a staff and begin to play the Melody Flash Cards notes on the Orff instruments. Using ostinato (repeated patterns) and several different types of borduns (simple, broken, cross-over and level), they attempt a bordun ostinato with repeated phrases from the Harry Potter stories. A great ending to getting lots of practice with beat, rhythm, ostinato and borduns.

Music: *Good Time* by Owl City and *Billy Rae Jepsen*; *People of the Drum Song* by Christine Stevens.

"My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced and refreshed by music when sick and weary."

Martin Luther King

October

Lesson # 4: Harry Potter: Part 1: These next two lessons apply the elements of music when singing and/or playing, composing, and arranging music to create a specific effect (e.g., compose a piece in the theme and variations form, using a well-known song for the theme to engage the listener; change the metre of a familiar eight-bar melody and describe the effect of the change; remove tone bars on a xylophone to create a pentatonic tonality. What better way than with Harry Potter. This series created quite an effect. Starting with the Harry Potter theme song, accidentals in music become apparent. Student Teams are put into 'houses' as Harry was. **Music:** *Harry Potter Theme and Hedwig's Theme.*

Lesson # 5: Harry Potter: Part 2: This lesson evolves the Music Teams will be examining flats, sharps and naturals in *Hedwigs Theme Song*. Students will have a chance to experiment after they learn why accidentals, add so much to a musical composition. Performing in front of peers is always daunting but a necessary part of gaining confidence and courage as skills to be used later in life.

Lesson 6 & 7: Don't Hide Your Magic: In this lesson, the students will apply what they learned about 'accidentals'. Musical terms such as **duration; pitch; dynamics; timbre; texture; harmony/form** will be taught by experimenting with instruments and/or with virtual keyboards. *If You Were a Wizard* poem really gets the kids thinking.

Lesson 8: A Tribute to Stan Rogers: This music appreciation lesson is in honour of Canadian folk song singers and writers. There is a very long story behind the song *The Idiot* that Stan Rogers wrote as his life narrative. The class will hear some of the top Canadian folk songs by such greats as Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, Pete Seeger and Joan Baez, stopping to recall the ever-popular Woody Guthrie version of **Music:** *This Land is Your Land.*

In the rest of the lesson, students will learn of the story and the music associated with the Franklin Expedition and the Northwest Passage. They will see some actual great YouTubes of the finding of the bell of the HMS Erebus ship on that expedition. With so much history and nostalgia happening in this lesson, of course the students need to study the beautiful harmonies in the **Music:** *Northwest Passage Song* and begin to work with harmonies and 2-or-more part singing. More about this next week.

November

Lesson # 9: Northwest Passage Continues: The students will look at the Elements of Music for Grade 6. They will get lots of 2-3 part singing practice today. They will also have a simple ear

training exercise to sing harmony. It's also a perfect time to highlight solo singers who can handle a verse or two. If our voices can sing parts, so can pitched instruments like the keyboard, boom whackers and xylophones. Work this well enough and you will have a great performance for an assembly at some point in time this year. "Ah, for just one time..."

November

Lessons # 10 & 11: Music Then and Now: Ode to Joy: This music appreciation lesson is about music through historical periods. In literacy classes in Grade 6, the students look at biographies. From Taylor Swift to Beethoven to Mr. Holland's Opus biographies, the lesson keeps on moving through different styles of music, realizing music is aligned with the signs of the time. Example: *Fifth of Beethoven*- Saturday Night Fever disco-style and *Fur Lise rap-style*. The students will learn to play Ode to Joy in several styles. The members of each Band will be encouraged to become animated when performing. A very diverse, broad approach to music styles. Integrating flash mob dancing into this lesson and providing an *Ode to Joy Challenge* for Grades 6s is a great motivator to work hard when working on their Music Teams.

Music: *Ode to Joy*

December Begins Dance

Dance Lessons # 1 & 2: All I Want for Christmas is You: These next two weeks will be playful and fun, although the students are expected to learn how to count and retain when learning choreography. They will compete by timing each other to help push each other to remember, using the cues provided. They will watch a *Chorus Line* Broadway Show on YouTube (media literacy) while the performers dance and sing to *I Hope I Get It*. That is what most of the kids in the class are thinking when they try to remember what move comes next. They'll have a chance to sing and dance along to *Let it Snow* and *When Santa Gets Stuck Up a Chimney* having fun improvising as they go home soon to enjoy a wonderful Christmas holiday. They may want to teach their newly learned choreography to their family as everyone dances and sings.

Music: *All I Want for Christmas is You!*

