

My Grade 7 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.

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MUSIC

September

Lesson # 1 & 2: Drum Circle & Percussion Fun to Move to *Monster* by Imagine Dragon; 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. The students will also learn or review the Sevens Clapping Game. The Beat and Rhythm Assessment Chart will also be introduced.

Clapping Game: *Sevens* **Music:** *Monster and Bayeh*

September

Lesson # 3: Healthy Living: Tempo, Dynamics and Form: Focus on creating funky beats, rhythms, tempo & dynamics in songs. Common **tempo markings and symbols for dynamics** are introduced. Learn what a **bridge** and **coda** is in music and how to create one when composing. The origins of hip hop and rap, as well as a brief mention of jazz and the 12 bars blues. Wynton Marsalis is introduced to explain **syncopation**. *Pass Me the Carrot Stew* is the authentic song the students will sing, rap, play and improvise. **Music:** *Pass Me the Carrot Stew*.

September-October

Lessons # 4 & 5 & 6: You Just Got Spoofed: A hip-hop warm up for physical literacy gets the juices flowing. The kids learn about the concept of a spoof by listening to a song called *Ham 'N Eggs* while identifying tempo and dynamics too. Students grasp the idea of a generic hallmark-even of a rapper. Using backing tracks, a demo Band demonstrates what the Bands are expected to produce when they create their own rap spoof. A *Rubric for a Musical Performance* provides the guidelines for an excellent evaluation. **Music:** *Hip Hop Warm-Up; Ham 'N Eggs Spoof; Carrot Stew Spoof; Backing Tracks*.

November

Lesson # 7: A Musician's Life: In this lesson the students will explore individual musicians and Bands whose lyrics have a message. Nickelback, who wrote *If Everyone Cared*. And our local Canadian singer, songwriter and activist is Sarah Harmer: *The Escarpment Blues*. The students will watch a true Canadian activist try to defend her own property through song and media. The

students will sing and play along to two songs.
Blues

Music: *If Everyone Cared and The Escarpment*

December

Lessons # 8 & 9: Exploring Culture, Style and Genre: Stand by Me: In this music appreciation lesson, the students will travel through time. Starting in the 1940s-50s swing and rock and roll music, styles and dancing will be covered. In the 60's, the class will spend time realizing the impact the song *Stand by Me* has had in society. They will also learn about the *Playing for Change Foundation* as they watch musicians worldwide collaborating on this very song in our era. This classic is still being sung today. A quick review of other classic songs will get everybody's feet tapping and throats humming along. You'll even see the students trying their luck at swing dancing. **Music:** *Stand by Me; Hound Dog* and many more.

December - Introduction to Dance

Lessons # 1 & 2: Elements of Dance: The grade 7s read stories and do research about what events or people have made an impression on them, in their literacy lessons. The students discover, in their findings, that **endurance, flexibility and strength** of both mind and body matter a lot to your success rate. The students will engage in exploratory movement using **stretch, bend, levels, twists, wriggle** and **rolls**, in various combinations. Next the students will practice **straight lines, curved and angular shapes**. More exploration as they work on their **orientation of body shapes, using positive and negative space. Symmetry and asymmetry** through movements using **combinations and relationships with other dancers**.

Dance moves like **wring, jab, mould, flow and bind**, are specific to the Grade 7 curriculum. Working with a partner requires collaboration, so both students will be ready to present to their peers. The *Elements of Dance Rubric* outlines the expectations the students aim for to get level 4 marks. Their reflection at the end of the lesson will include some interesting thoughts about body language and how our bodies can give us away when we are trying to cover something up. **Music:** *DJ 's Got Us Falling in Love; Dance Compilation*

December

Lessons # 3 & 4: Ay, Ay, AY Christmas: The class should have fun with this Hispanic take on this fun, fast tempo Zumba type of choreographed dance. While rehearsing, the students will challenge each other to see who can last the longest at getting the dance moves accurate. The class will leave with a new appreciation for the difficult life a dancer has. Like all athletes, it becomes apparent that it takes hours of practice, strong muscles that they need to keep limber and in good shape. That plus an ongoing commitment to always challenge themselves to be the best they can be. The class gets to witness this kind of commitment to the art as they watch Neil Patrick Harris in the 2013 Oscars, as he opens the evening with one of the greatest testimonies, to the arts ever seen. Since the lesson opened with a Hispanic Christmas dance, what better way

to get into the Christmas mood than with everyone joining their voices and bodies together to dance and sing to *Feliz Navidad!*

“80% of what you understand in a conversation is read through the body, not the words.” Deborah Bull

