

8th Grade Curriculum Map

Keyboards

An introduction to playing the keyboard - students learn the notes from C to G in the bass and treble clefs and perform a solo or duet keyboard piece.

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| 1 | Find Middle C
An introduction the keyboard and playing Middle C. | 6 | More on Chords: 3 Fingers C, F, G, +
Students play duets with melody parts. |
| 2 | Notes C and D
Students learn notes C and D in bass and treble clefs. | 7 | Your Choice
Students choose solo, duet, trio, or ensemble for final performance. |
| 3 | C, D, E, and F
Students play C, D, E, and F in bass and treble clefs. | 8 | Your Choice Part 2
Students practice their performance piece alone or in groups. |
| 4 | C, D, E, F, and G
Students play C, D, E, F, and G in bass and treble clefs. | 9 | Your Choice Part 3
Students practice their performance piece alone or in groups and perform peer-to-peer evaluations. |
| 5 | Chords: 3 Fingers C, F, and G
Students learn and play pieces with 3 simple chords. | 10 | The Final Performance
Students perform their final piece alone or in groups for a live audience. |

Asian Percussion

An introduction to the percussion instruments of Asia and compose and perform their own Taiko drumming piece.

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| 11 | Drums of India
An introduction to the history and instruments of Asia with a focus on Indian percussion. | 16 | Composing the Ensemble - Part III
Students complete the B section of their piece. |
| 12 | Drums of the Middle East
Students explore percussion instruments of the Middle East including the doumbek, tar, finger cymbals, and djembe. | 17 | Finishing Touches - Part I
Students complete the C section of their piece. |
| 13 | The Silk Road & Japanese History
Students learn how musical culture spread through Asia throughout history. | 18 | Finishing Touches - Part II
Students put the piece together and add movement choreography. |
| 14 | Japan, Taiko, and Composing
An introduction to the history, geogaphy and percussion instruments of Japan with a focus on Taiko Drumming. | 19 | Dressing the Rehearsal
Students practice their performance piece alone or in groups and perform peer-to-peer evaluations. |
| 15 | Composing the Ensemble - Part II
Students begin creating a Taiko drumming piece with an A, B, and C section. | 20 | Final Presentations and Evaluation!
Students perform their final piece alone or in groups for a live audience. |

Musical Styles

Extend students understanding of musical styles jazz, rock and hip-hop through listening, analyzing, and describing.

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| 21 | Introduction to Styles and Jazz
An introduction to Jazz, Rock and Hip-Hop styles, focusing on Jazz. | 26 | Hip-Hop and Beatboxing
Students practice beatboxing, rapping, and freestyling - creating beats with the Quaver Drum Kit App. |
| 22 | Improvising a Jazz Piece
Students learn to play and improvise a Jazz piece on the keyboard or Quaver Keyboard App. | 27 | Choose your Style
Students choose a Jazz, Hip-Hop, or Rock piece to complete for their performance. |
| 23 | Basics of Rock
Explore the history and foundations of Rock music. | 28 | Working on our Piece
Group work on the final project piece. |
| 24 | Hooks, Fills, and Improvising
Students create hooks, fills, and improvisations on the guitar or Quaver Guitar App. | 29 | Dress Rehearsal
Students rehearse their performance and perform peer-to-peer evaluations. |
| 25 | Basics of Hip-Hop
Explore the history and foundations of Hip-Hop music. | 30 | Final Performance
Performance of group pieces and final evaluation. |

Giant Jam

This finale project includes a group performance of one, two, or four measure ostinatos played together in a giant jam piece.

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| 31 | What is a Jam?
An introduction to the basics of Jamming. | 36 | Creating a Giant Jam Piece
Students create a jam piece using drums. |
| 32 | Jamming a Bass Foundation
Students create a bass and rhythmical foundation on which they will build a good jam session. | 37 | Writing and Arranging the A
Student groups formalize their favorite jamming loops to write a giant jam piece. |
| 33 | Jamming (A) Using Melodic Instruments
Students use the D Minor pentatonic scale and Boomwhackers® to create a treble jam. | 38 | Writing and Arranging the B
Students arrange the loops for their giant jam piece. |
| 34 | Jamming (B) Using Found Sounds
Students use found sounds to create a good jamming session. | 39 | Writing and Arranging the C
Students rehearse their giant jam and use the arranging grid to notate it. |
| 35 | Jamming (C) Using Drums and Other
Students add their treble and found sounds jams to their foundation piece. | 40 | Final Presentations
Student groups perform their giant jams for an audience and present their jamming grids. |