

Grade Level / Course Summary with Big Ideas:

7th grade music focuses on musical experiences aligned with the PA Academic Standards for Arts and Humanities and the National Standards for Music Education. As students progress through this course they will build upon the previously studied elements of music through the study of American music. This includes form, pitch, rhythm, composition, and expressive elements. Students will participate in age-appropriate singing activities, movement activities, playing instruments, and listening activities. We begin with a review of rhythms and note names culminating in a STOMP composition project. We then apply the skills learned previously in general music to a hands-on study of American music history. Beginning with early slave music, we listen to, perform and discuss different types of slave music and observe how it ties into today's current music. Then we progress into Blues music where we incorporate guitar playing. We learn to play 12 bar blues pattern and more advanced players can improvise. Next we use our research skills to do a Jazz webquest and research 6 important jazz figures and present our findings to the class. After our survey of Jazz we move on to Appalachian folk music where we do some square dancing and perform on guitars again as we progress into country music and Rockabilly with Elvis, and Johnny Cash. We end our survey of American music with a 2-part project. First we analyze the lyrics to the song *American Pie* and present our findings. We discuss the relevance of the lyrical meaning to the progression of rock and roll history. The second part of the project is a performance element. The students select an early rock and roll song, and using classroom instruments they create a music video of their group performing that song.

Grade Level Modules (Units):

Suggested Timeline
of Weeks or # of Class Periods/Lessons

1. Rhythm (notes, rests, time signatures, beat, duple, triple, composition)	7 lessons
2. Pitch (Treble clef, bass clef, ledger lines, composition, Blues)	5 lessons
3. STOMP (Rhythmic Composition)	4 lessons
3. American Music (Slave music, Blues, Jazz, Ragtime, Country, Rock)	20 lessons
4. Guitar (12 bar Blues, Country, Folk, G, C, D, Em)	15 lessons
5. Expressive Elements (dynamics- FF, F, mf, mp, p, pp)	5 lessons
6. Instrumental Performance (Orff, Percussion, Boomwhackers)	10 lessons
7. Vocal Performance (Solfege singing, folk, blues, spirituals)	10 lessons

Learning Activities/Modes of Formative and Summative Assessment:

<u>Learning Activities:</u>	<u>Modes of Assessment:</u>
Singing activities	Teacher observation
Playing instruments	Projects with rubrics
Movement activities	Worksheets
Describing music	Quizzes
Listening activities	
Composition	

Primary Instructional Resources:

Music Literature
Acceptable Internet sites and tech applications
Instruments