

LIBERTY COMMON SCHOOL UNIT ORGANIZER

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER UNITS

- ❖ **Elements of Music: Rhythm Review, Pitch, Tempo, Notation**
- ❖ **Listening and Understanding: THE ORCHESTRA – Review Instrument Families**

CORE KNOWLEDGE GRADE LEVEL

2nd grade Music

Throughout this month the students will review the basic element of rhythm in music by recognizing a steady beat and moving to a steady beat in various songs from the core curriculum. Also, we will discover other musical elements. In addition, the students will review families of instruments.

- On the first day of class, we will review policies and procedures and then play the straw name game. We'll also review the song "She'll Be Comin' 'Round the Mountain" with movement. This allows the children to learn and practice new elements of music such as pitch and tempo by singing various songs from the curriculum.
- Much of the class time in second grade is spent learning new songs. Occasionally, we review songs from previous grades. One of the warm-ups that I use for singing, especially at this time of year, is a warm-up titled "Raking Leaves." This is found in the book "The Music Teacher's Almanac" by Loretta Mitchell. It's listed as Activity 1-13 and involves performing a chant with movement. (See Attachment) Also, we will use more instruments on our songs to help emphasize the strong beats and weak beats in music. By the end of September the students will have learned the following songs. *This list is not all-inclusive, but presents a minimum goal to achieve:*
 - Do-Re-Mi (Add instruments including Diatonic Note Bars)
 - This Land is Your Land
 - Follow the Drinking Gourd (with book)
 - Erie Canal (With historical book)
 - Old Dan Tucker
 - Halley Came to Jackson (with storybook and recording)
 - Star Spangled Banner (with book)
- The second day of class will involve the students playing a back to school rhythm game that uses different phrases and encourages students to match the correct

rhythm. Additionally, after the students learn the song, Do-Re-Mi they'll play Do-Re-Mi Bingo to practice and become familiar with the syllables.

- To review and practice the concept of form, I will do a lesson over the course of two days. The first day we will listen to the song "William Tell Overture" by Rossini and create different hand motions for each section. The second day, the students will use flashlights to "paint" the ceiling during the various sections. Different colored flashlights will be used to represent the different sections of the piece and thus outline the form.
- At the beginning of September, the students will do a specific lesson where they will be able to recognize when pitches are high and when pitches are low. The lesson is titled "High/Low (Thermometer and Temperature)." The lesson is on pages 70-75 in the book *Music Today and Every Day* by Tod F. Kline. (See Attachments)
- In the second grade the students spend much more time on the specific instruments in the orchestra families. The main family lessons are spread throughout the year. However, around the middle of September, I review the instrument families and use the "Discover the Instruments of the Orchestra" poster cards as an introduction. We play a card positioning game to place the cards in their correct instrument families. We'll also go through a packet on the orchestra and it's set up as a class. The students play instrument bingo and identify the instruments based on sound clips and then mark their playing card if appropriate. After the activity I give the students a worksheet/quiz. It's a combination of worksheets 4-8 and 4-9 from the book *Musical Instruments and the Voice* by Audrey J. Adair. (See Attachment) This unit lesson usually takes two class periods.