



The music standards in the elementary years focus on general music knowledge and skills to ensure a solid foundation for the opportunity for more specialized musical study in later years. In each elementary grade, students investigate and perform various music styles and genres, examine the language of music through identifying and writing simple music notation, consider simple musical composition processes, and develop the ability to describe their own musical preferences as well as critique the music of others.

Expectations for 1st Grade Students:

- **Expression of Music (Perform/Present):** Sing and play simple songs and patterns; respond to teacher feedback to improve musical skills.
- **Creation of Music (Create):** Create short patterns and phrases of music.
- **Theory of Music (Know/Comprehend):** Recognize a variety of simple rhythmic patterns and simple musical notation; use musical vocabulary to discuss changes in music; identify patterns in simple musical selections such as beginning, middle, and end; recognize a wide variety of sounds and sound sources.
- **Aesthetic Valuation of Music (Appreciate and Understand):** Describe moods/feelings portrayed in music; describe where and when music can be heard in peoples' daily lives.

Throughout 1st Grade You May Find Students:

- Moving while following the teacher's hand gestures (walk with an arm wave, stop with an arm stop); singing simple pitches and following beats while the teacher points to musical notes.
- Singing along with their teacher to a well-known song; singing or playing a song and adding something new (speeding up or slowing down the beat).
- Clapping to rhythms in a song; describing musical selections using basic music vocabulary.
- Discussing the sounds of a musical selection ("it sounds like a big bear" or "it sounds like a little mouse"); explaining personal likes and dislikes about kinds of music; using movement to show the personal feelings a piece of music creates.