

Course Information: **HPS MUSIC CURRICULUM**

Topic: Choir

Grade Level: 6

Length: Semester

Periods Per Day: 1 period, 46 minutes

Essential Understanding:

Students will learn about elements of music and vocal technique. The choir will sing a variety of 2-part music and participate in one concert performance per nine weeks. Time will also be spent on applying note-reading skills in the piano lab and exploring creative musical ideas.

Theme Samples:

- Fundamentals – Note, rhythm, and musical symbol reading with vocal application
- Creating – Conceiving and developing new artistic ideas and work
- Performing – Realizing artistic ideas and work through interpretation and presentation
- Responding – Understanding and evaluating how the arts convey meaning
- Connecting – Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context

Course Objectives and Expectations:

Proper vocal tone production is emphasized throughout the course (proper posture, breath support, open tone quality, diction and vowel production). Students will also develop and practice skills such as matching pitches, extending vocal range, singing intervals and melodic lines in tune; will be introduced to musical symbols, terms, and vocabulary; to sight-reading rhythms; will use standard notation to write music; will evaluate music and music performances; will understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts and understand music in relation to history and culture; will create or improvise music.

Student Objectives:

- Students can analyze rhythms by demonstrating correct counting, clapping, singing, or writing
- Students can demonstrate correct vocal production as instructed.
- Students can respond to the artistic nuances of the conductor.
- Students can compare whether a pitch is high or low according to where it is located on the staff and can apply this information to vocal production.

- ✓ Students will reflect on the recorded performance of the concert and evaluate the good and bad moments.
- ✓ Students can describe the emotions conveyed in a piece of music.
- ✓ Students can demonstrate innovation by performing a phrase of music in different ways.
- ✓ Students can create unique musical ideas through compositions.
- ✓ Students can interpret musical expression through creating choreography.

Pacing and pertinent Montana Content Standard:

Elements of Music	MU:Pr4.2.E.5a
Vocal Production and Posture	MU:Pr4.2.E.5a
Expression in Music	MU:Pr4.3.E.5a
Sight-Singing/Rhythmic Accuracy	MU:Pr5.3.E.5a
Concert Performance Skills	MU:Pr4.3.E.5a
Evaluating Performances	MU:Pr5.3.E.5a
Piano Skills	MU:Pr4.2.E.5a
Exposure to Varied Genres	MU:Pr6.1.E.5b

Course Outline and Assessments:

Quarter 1

Week 1 Vocal Fundamentals MU:Pr4.3.E.5a

- A. Vocal Production
- B. Posture
- C. Vocal Warm-ups
- D. Learning Solfege syllables
- E. Rhythm exercises
- F. Notation review

Assessment: Worksheets, teacher observation, group participation, bell-ringers

Week 2 Score Analysis MU:Pr4.2.E.5a MU:Pr4.1.E.5a

- A. Introduce concert music
 - a. Identify parts, systems, piano accompaniment
 - b. Apply rhythmic knowledge to piece
 - c. Apply solfege and pitch differentiation
 - d. Discuss symbols, clefs, key signatures, time signatures
 - e. Introduce Mr. Everybody’s Musical Apartment treble clef characters
 - f. Understand composer’s intent or cultural significance

Assessment: Teacher assessment, worksheets, bell-ringers

Week 3-6 Ensemble Singing MU:Pr5.3.E.5a

- A. Maintaining vocal part in an ensemble
 - a. Listen to others
 - b. Count rhythmically
 - c. Apply dynamics and articulations by following the director
 - d. Interpret music symbols by following the director
 - e. Apply expression by following the director

Assessment: Section self-assessment, individual self-assessment, teacher assessment, worksheets, video assessment, audio assessment

Week 7 Create Choreography MU:Cr1.1.E.IIIa, MU:Pr4.3.E.5a, MU:Cn11.0.T.5a

- A. Interpret music by creating choreography to a concert song of choice
 - a. Listening skills to synchronize music with actions
 - b. Add appropriate costumes

Assessment: Self-assessment and reflection, peer reflection, teacher reflection

Week 8 Concert Preparation/Performance MU:Pr4.3.E.5a MU:Pr5.3.E.5a

- A. Concert posture/behavior
- B. Ensemble placement
- C. Procedures in performance venue
- D. Etiquette
- E. Program rehearsal

Assessment: Written reflection after viewing concert video, teacher observation, audience comments

Week 9 Piano Lab MU:Pr4.2.E.5a

- A. Apply and reinforce note-reading skills to an instrument
 - a. Counts rhythmically
 - b. Displays consistent tempo
 - c. Equates notation to solfege syllables
 - d. Understands and observes rests

Assessment: Student performance, self-evaluation, teacher observation

Quarter 2

Week 1 Unit on Music Genres MU:Re8.1.E.5a MU:Cn11.0.T.5a

- A. Listen to samples of varied music genres
 - e. Identify characteristic features from specific genres
 - f. Understand cultural significance
 - g. Introduce new concert music, identify genre
 - h. Apply vocal technique suitable to genre

Assessment: Oral reports, worksheets, bell-ringers, teacher observation

Week 2-5 Study of 2nd Quarter Concert Music MU:Pr5.3.E.5a

- A. Apply vocal techniques to new concert material
 - a. Apply rhythmic knowledge to piece
 - b. Apply solfege and pitch differentiation
 - c. Discuss symbols, clefs, key signatures, time signatures
- B. Apply more advanced rhythm exercises
- C. Present the bass clef – Dog characters on the lines and Cow characters on the spaces.
- D. Introduce ledger lines, flat and sharps
- E. Launch The ABCs of Musical Terms booklet
- F. Understand composer's intent or cultural significance

Assessment: Worksheets, teacher observation, quizzes

Week 6 Concert Preparation/Performance MU:Pr4.3.E.5a MU:Pr5.3.E.5a MU:Re9.1.E.5a

- A. Concert posture/behavior
- B. Ensemble placement
- C. Procedures in performance venue
- D. Etiquette
- E. Program rehearsal

Assessment: Teacher observation, video reflection, audience comments

Week 7 Live Karaoke Performance/Music Video MU:Pr4.1.E.5a MU:Pr4.3.E.5a
MU:Cr1.1.E.IIIa MU:Cn11.0.T.5a

- A. Selection of appropriate music
 - a. Explore creative ideas
 - b. Apply creative ideas, choreography, and costumes to selected music

Assessment: Storyboards, presentation, peer review, teacher observation

Week 8 Piano Lab MU:Pr4.2.E.5a

- A. Apply and reinforce note-reading skills to an instrument
 - a. Counts rhythmically
 - b. Displays consistent tempo
 - c. Equates notation to solfege syllables
 - d. Understands rests observes rests

Assessment: Student performance, self-evaluation, teacher observation

Week 9 Creating Original Compositions MU:Cr2.1.E.5b MU:Cr1.1.E.5a

- B. Create a 5-measure composition based on I, vi, IV, V, I progression
- C. Record chord progression by using block chords in root position
- D. Improvise various melodies over the recorded progression

Assessment: Self-assessment and reflection, peer reflection, teacher reflection

Resources:

Octavos from music library, Rhythm Reader Levels I by Audrey Snyder, The ABCs of Musical Terms booklet and CD, choral warm-up books, video clips from the Internet on vocal production and music theory.

[Music Standards-Ensemble-Strand](#)