



Grade 5 Intro to Strings - Unit 1 - Let's Get Started: The Basics of Playing Your Instrument

Unit Focus

In our Let's Get Started unit, students will get acquainted with the parts of their instruments, letter names of each string, basic care and maintenance, holding position, left hand shape, plucking strings (pizzicato), proper bow hold, bow placement, tone production, and the letter names and fingerings of their first three notes. The learning process will begin by developing the separate functions of the right and left hand in relation to string technique. This unit will culminate with students coordinating hands together (bowing and fingerings) to play their first beginner song.

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings

Standard(s)	Transfer	
National Core Arts Standards General Music: 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate understanding of the structure and the elements of music (such as rhythm, pitch, form, and harmony) in music selected for performance. (MU:Pr4.2.5.a) When analyzing selected music, read and perform using standard notation. (MU:Pr4.2.5.b) Apply teacher-provided and established criteria and feedback to evaluate the accuracy and expressiveness of ensemble and personal performances. (MU:Pr5.1.5.a) Rehearse to refine technical accuracy and expressive qualities to address challenges, and show improvement over time. (MU:Pr5.1.5.b) Madison Public Schools Profile of a Graduate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-Awareness: Examining current performance critically to identify steps/ strategies to persist. (POG.4.1) 	<i>Students will be able to independently use their learning to...</i> T1 Develop and refine techniques and skills through purposeful practice and application to become more fluent T2 Engage in critique to inform next steps or deepen examination of an artistic work	
	Meaning	
	Understanding(s)	Essential Question(s)
	<i>Students will understand that...</i> U1 correct assembly is necessary for proper function of the instrument. U2 posture and playing position is essential for sound production. U3 proper care and maintenance is essential to keep your instrument in working condition. U4 regular practice of your instrument is important for growth as an instrumentalist.	<i>Students will keep considering...</i> Q1 What does quality look/feel/sound like? How do I fine tune my work for and with an audience? Q2 What (skill/technique) am I focusing on? How do I get better at this? How do I know I'm making progress? Q3 How did it go / how did it turn out so far? How does it measure up to the established criteria? What is important to focus on next?
	Acquisition of Knowledge and Skill	
	Knowledge	Skill(s)
	<i>Students will know...</i> K1 instrument care and maintenance. K2 the parts of the instruments and their function; letter names of each string. K3 proper posture, holding position, and left hand shape. K4 proper bow hold and bow placement.	<i>Students will be skilled at...</i> S1 Identifying and understanding the parts of the instrument, including the letter names of each string. S2 Developing an understanding and demonstrating the proper use of basic instrument maintenance.

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings

K5 how to produce a good sound on your instrument.
K6 fingerings for the first 3 notes on the instrument.
K7 proper posture and breathing to support a quality tone.
K8 the following vocabulary: pizzicato, posture, bow strike, tone, intonation.

S3 Developing and demonstrating, with consistency, a proper bow hold and left hand position.
S4 Developing and demonstrating proper bow placement and bow stroke to produce a good sound.
S5 Play the first 3 notes with correct left hand position and finger placement.
S6 performing music with hands together (coordinating bow and fingers).