Grade 7/8 Digital Music - Unit 1 - Time

Unit Focus

Music technology has been shown to increase student motivation through a self-learning skillset that presents exciting content that is relevant to the technology of today's music industry. Digital music is an elective open to all 7th and 8th grade students, and no prior music experience is necessary! In this course, students will learn how to compose music digitally, through a non-traditional lens, using Soundtrap, a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) software program.

Unit 1 will focus on Time in Music. Students will understand how to maintain a steady beat, subdivide a beat, internalize rhythms written in beat map notation, and play the rhythms. Students will understand the eighth note, eighth note triplet, and sixteenth note subdivisions. Students will understand the basic musical concepts learned and mastered with purposeful practice.

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings

Standard(s)

National Core Arts Standards
General Music: 7

- Use standard and/or iconic notation and/or audio/ video recording to document personal simple rhythmic phrases, melodic phrases, and harmonic sequences. (MU:Cr2.1.7.b)
- When analyzing selected music, read and identify by name or function standard symbols for rhythm, pitch articulation, dynamics, tempo, and form. (MU:Pr4.2.7.b)
- Identify and apply collaboratively-developed criteria (such as demonstrating correct interpretation of notation, technical skill of performer, originality, emotional impact, and interest) to rehearse, refine, and determine when the music is ready to perform. (MU:Pr5.1.7.a)

Madison Public Schools Profile of a Graduate

- Inquiry: Posing, pursuing, and refining significant questions to deepen understanding about a topic or issue. (POG.1.1)
- Design: Engaging in a process to refine a product for an intended audience and purpose. (POG.2.2)

Transfer

Students will be able to independently use their learning to...
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)

Students will understand that...
U1 the beat is the pulse of music.
U2 the subdivision of a beat is variable depending on note value.
U3 a beat map can be used to understand and perform subdivisions.
U4 artists improve the quality of a performance/piece of art through a cycle of deliberate practice and examination of results.

Essential Question(s)

Students will keep considering...
Q1 How can I read and create rhythm?
Q2 How can I apply my knowledge to create a product?
Q3 What does quality look/feel/sound like?

Acquisition of Knowledge and Skill

Knowledge

Students will know...
K1 a metronome is a device used to keep a steady beat.
K2 rhythm is the organization of notes in time.

Skill(s)

Students will be skilled at...
S1 maintaining a steady beat at 80 BPM with up to 12 beats of metronomic silence.
S2 dividing the beat into two, three, and four equal parts at eighty beats per minute.

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings		
	K3 the subdivision of eighth note, eighth note triplet, and sixteenth note should be verbally notated as 1+, 1-pl-et, and 1-e-anda, respectively. **K4** a beat map is a structured guide to support learning, practice, and aid in performance. **K5** the following vocabulary: metronome, mute, beat, beat map, rhythm, BPM (beats per minute), subdivide, eighth note, eighth note triplet, sixteenth note, attack, rest, syncopation	**S3** clapping a rhythm written in beat map notation using eighth note, eighth note triplet, and sixteenth note subdivision at 60 BPM. **S4** finger independence. **S5** playing a rhythm written in beat map notation with their left-hand middle finger while their right-hand index finger taps the bass subdivision of eighth note, eighth note triplet, and sixteenth note at 60 BPM.