

8th Grade Jazz Band Curriculum

Timeframe	Grade-Level Content Expectations	Materials*	Formal Assessments	Power Standard
Weeks 1 & 2	Classroom Procedures & Handbook	Handbook		
	Discuss the differences b/w 8th Grade Band & Jazz			
	Understand the numbering of scale steps	Jazz Basics Unit 1		
	Identify notes of the Bb major scale using numbers		Playing Test	
	Create simple rhythmic patterns by alternating rhythm of given measures		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Echo two-measure melodic patterns presented aurally			1/M1, M2, M5, M7
	Jazz History: New Orleans	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 1	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M2, M3
Guitar	Play two chords using different voicings			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Perform the comping rhythms in the correct style			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
Piano	Perform the comping rhythms in the correct style			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
Drums	Change timbres and play short written fills			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
Weeks 3 & 4	Swing 8th Notes	Jazz Basics Unit 2		1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Perform an Eb major scale over one octave		Playing Test	1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Echo two-measure phrases			1/M1, M2, M5, M7
	Use rhythmic variation by improvising eight measure solo		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Begin music for fall concert or Veterans Day Assembly (one piece appropriate for Festival)	Sheet Music		1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Jazz History: Swing	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 6	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M1, M2, M3
Guitar/Piano	Expand comping rhythms using rhythmic displacement			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
Drums	Perform typical swing rhythm on ride cymbal			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Perform typical swing rhythm using hi-hat			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Accent an upbeat with the ensemble			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
Weeks 5 & 6	Create dorian scale by lowering 3rd & 7th notes 1/2 step	Jazz Basics Unit 3		
	Perform a D dorian scale over an octave		Playing Test	1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Improvise rhythms with the CD using one to two given pitches		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Follow preset dynamic shape while improvising in D dorian			2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Continue music for fall concert or Veterans Day Assembly			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Jazz History: Jelly Roll Morton	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 2	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, M4, 5/M2, M3
Drums	Perform bossa nova rhythm pattern			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Perform general latin rock rhythm pattern			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
Weeks 7 & 8	Continue to development swing 8th notes	Jazz Basics Unit 4		1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Construct F dorian scale given F major scale		Playing Test	1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Demonstrate melodic variation by altering pitches of set rhythm		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Improvise using notes from F dorian using given dynamics			2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Improvise solo based on two-measure phrases using variations			2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Dress rehearsals for Fall concert or continue music for Veterans Day Assembly	Concert Review Worksheet & Performance Recording	Written Assessment	3/M1, M2, M3, M5
	Jazz History: Louis Armstrong	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 3	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, M4, 5/M3
Guitar	Continue to develop comping skills in Freddie Green style			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
Piano	Play short melodic fills			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M7
Drums	Alter basic ride cymbal pattern while maintain steady beat			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
Weeks 9 & 10	Veterans Day Assembly Performance (if applicable)	Concert Review Worksheet & Performance Recording	Written Assessment	3/M1, M2, M3, M5
	Begin Holiday Concert Music	Sheet Music		1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9, 2/M2, M3, M7
	Chord symbols as representatives of a specific scale	Jazz Basics Unit 5		
	Focus on the specific tones from the scale need to be emphasized while improvising		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Jazz History: Improvisation	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 5	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, M4, 5/M1, M2, M3
Drums	Use fills at the end of phrases to outline form			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M7
Weeks 11 & 12	Continue Holiday Concert Music (one piece appropriate for Festival)			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M2, M3, M7
	Continue to develop swing feel	Jazz Basics Unit 6		1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Play Eb dorian scale		Playing Test	1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Echo two-measure phrases presented aurally			1/M1, M2, M5, M7
	Identify & notate chord tones indicated by chord symbols BbM, EbM, Dm, Fm, Ebm			
	Demonstrate & notate melodic & rhythmic variation		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Create dorian scale from given major scale			

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	Jazz History: Big Band	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 7	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M3
Piano	Comp using 3rd & 7ths in left hand while playing right hand melody			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
Drums	"Catch the figures"			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Demonstrate ability to correctly perform rhythms that match ensemble			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
Weeks 13 & 14	Holiday Concert Music	Application to Speak @ Concert		1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M2, M3, M7
	Jazz History: Duke Ellington	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 10	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M3
	Dress Rehearsals for Holiday Concert			1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Holiday Concert & Assembly	Concert Review Worksheet & Performance Recording	Written Assessment	3/M1, M2, M3, M5
Week 15	Review Jazz Basics Unit 6			
	Jazz History: Hot Jazz	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 11	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M3
	Pass out & begin final piece for Jazz Festival	Sheet Music		1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9, 2/M2, M3, M7
Weeks 16 & 17	Continue to develop swing feel	Jazz Basics Unit 7		1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Create dorian scale from given major scale			
	Define & identify 12 bar blue form			
	Identify scale steps of Bb, Eb, & F dominant scales by number			
	Perform Bb blues scale		Playing Test	1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Continue Jazz Festival music			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M2, M3, M7
	Jazz History: The Blues	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 4	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M1, M2, M3
Piano	Play a Bb blues using three-note & four-note chord voicings			2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
Weeks 18 & 19	Continue Jazz Festival music			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M2, M3, M7
	Continue performing 12 Bar Blues in Bb		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Perform at Jazz Festival or similar venue/experience	Concert Review Worksheet & Performance Recording	Adjudicator Feedback	3/M1, M2, M3, M5
Weeks 20-24	Refine music for Concert	Application to Speak @ Concert		1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M2, M3, M7
	Perform at "Chilly" Jazz			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Festival Preview Concert	Concert Review Worksheet & Performance Recording	Adjudicators' Feedback	3/M1, M2, M3, M5
	Prepare Honors Band Audition Music	Audition Music & Recording Equipment	Acceptance in Ensemble	1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Prepare Festival Music (Concert not Jazz)	Sheet Music		1/M1, M2, M5, M8
Weeks 25 & 26	Continue developing improvisation skills w/ focus on adding melodic quotes		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M7 M8, M9
	Jazz History: Bebop	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 12	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M3
	Begin Spring Concert Music	Sheet Music		1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9, 2/M2, M3, M7
Weeks 27 & 28	Continue developing improvisation skills w/ focus on emphasizing correct notes		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Jazz History: Dizzy Gillespie	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 13	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M3
	Continue Spring Concert music			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M2, M3, M7
Weeks 29 & 30	Continue developing improvisation skills w/ focus on how to end a solo		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Jazz History: Thelonius Monk	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 14	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M3
	Continue Spring concert music			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M2, M3, M7
Week 31 & 32	Continue developing improvisation skills w/focus on rhythm section		Solo Performance	2/M1, M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Jazz History: Cool Jazz	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 15	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M3
	Continue Spring Concert music			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M2, M3, M7
Weeks 33-35	Play Eb Blues Scale		Playing Test	1/M1, M2, M5, M8
	Introduce 12 Bar Blues in Eb			2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Jazz History: Jazz Singer	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 16	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M3
	Dress Rehearsals for Spring Concert			1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M2, M3, M7
	Spring Concert	Concert Review Worksheet & Performance Recording	Written Assessment	3/M1, M2, M3, M5
Weeks 36 & 37	12 Bar Blues in Eb		Solo Performance	2/M2, M3, M7, 1/M1, M2, M5, M8, M9
	Jazz History: Latin & Afro-Cuban Jazz	Jazz For Young People Curriculum Lesson 17	Workbook	4/M1, M2, M3, 5/M3
	Prepare & Perform music for Talent Show	Sheet Music		1/M1, M2, M5, M8, 2/M2, M3, M7