



Grade 6 Chorus Foundations - Unit 1 - Vocal Development

Unit Focus

This unit will introduce students to their voice - how to sing with proper breathing, sound quality, and technique. Students will learn and utilize basic vocal warmups and exercises that focus on scale development through solfege syllables. Concepts pertaining to rhythm, notation and pitch matching will also be reinforced in this first unit through various interactive group exercises.

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings

Standard(s)	Transfer	
<p>National Core Arts Standards General Music: 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) <p>Music Traditional and Emerging Ensembles: Novice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate and refine draft compositions and improvisations based on knowledge, skill, and teacher-provided criteria. (MU:Cr3.1.E.5a) Share personally-developed melodic and rhythmic ideas or motives – individually or as an ensemble – that demonstrate understanding of characteristics of music or texts studied in rehearsal. (MU:Cr3.2.E.5a) Demonstrate, using music reading skills where appropriate, how knowledge of formal aspects in musical works inform prepared or improvised performances. (MU:Pr4.2.E.5a) Demonstrate attention to technical accuracy and expressive qualities in prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire of music. (MU:Pr6.1.E.5a) Demonstrate an awareness of the context of the music through prepared and improvised performances. (MU:Pr6.1.E.5b) <p>Madison Public Schools Profile of a Graduate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision Making: Make responsible decisions, based on potential outcomes. (POG.4.2) 	<p><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 Make appropriate choices as a responsible, respectful participant within a communal artistic experience</p>	
	Meaning	
	Understanding(s)	Essential Question(s)
	<p><i>Students will understand that...</i> U1 the solfege scale moves up and down, stepwise. U2 proper singing utilizes both your mouth for vocalizing, and your ear for listening. U3 proper vocal technique is essential to communicate the text to an audience. U4 there is a difference between your speaking voice and singing voice. U5 following a rehearsal routine aids in the successful development as a musician.</p>	<p><i>Students will keep considering...</i> Q1 In what ways does posture enable effective singing? 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?</p>
	Acquisition of Knowledge and Skill	
	Knowledge	Skill(s)
	<p><i>Students will know...</i> K1 the syllables and pitches of a solfege scale, Do-do. K2 that the diaphragm controls their intake of air for proper singing. K3 the way they align their bodies, sitting or standing, is part of the building of a vocalist.</p>	<p><i>Students will be skilled at...</i> S1 singing with proper technique - including mouth, tongue, breathing, and posture. S2 matching pitch. S3 differentiating between head voice and chest voice.</p>

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings

	<p>K4 diction describes the accuracy and clarity of pronunciation and is essential to communicate text.</p> <p>K5 the following vocabulary: diaphragm, posture, body alignment, breath support, tone quality, tone production, vowel shape, articulation, diction, head voice, chest voice, major solfege syllables (do, re, etc), steady beat, major scale, round, unison, rhythm. whole note/rest, dotted half note/ rest, half note/rest, quarter note/rest, eighth note.</p>	<p>S4 developing self awareness as it pertains to their posture, and using self-assessment to correct individual issues.</p> <p>S5 forming vowels and consonants accurately.</p> <p>S6 articulating text using clear enunciation and accurate diction.</p> <p>S7 sight-reading in the keys of C and F major within a 5 note range.</p> <p>S8 labeling, counting, and clapping rhythmic examples, with basic rhythmic values, while maintaining a steady beat</p>
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