

Course Title:	General Elementary Music
Grade(s):	First Grade

Course Description
This course builds upon kindergarten foundations, focusing on advancing musical skills, including playing and identifying steady beat and rhythm, improving vocal and instrumental proficiency, and refining aural (listening) skills. Students continue to study expressive elements through listening and movement, introducing dynamics and folk dancing. Lesson content prioritizes connecting music to the real world through literature and diverse cultural songs. They attend music once a week for a 50-minute period.
Approved Curricular Materials/Textbook(s)
Repertoire has been collected from a variety of sources, including but not limited to: Conversational Solfege/First Steps in Music by John Feierabend, NEDM (New England Dancing Masters) by Peter and Mary Alice Amidon, as well as aurally collected from different musicians and conferences.

Unit Title	Unit Description (Include Unit Objectives)	Unit Pacing
Unit 1: Steady Beat and Rhythm	Students will be able to: - Identify or perform a steady beat by tapping, moving, or playing pitched/nonpitched instruments while singing or listening - Echo rhythmic patterns containing quarter and eighth note pairs using nonpitched instruments, clapping, or using Kodaly rhythm syllables (ta, ti-ti) - Read rhythmic patterns containing quarter note and eighth note pairs using Kodaly rhythm syllables - Identify and name quarter notes and eighth notes	Year long (September-June)
Unit 2: Vocal Proficiency	Students will improve their vocal skills. They will be able to: - Use a developmentally appropriate singing voice - Identify and perform with their head and/or chest voices	Year long (September-June)

	• Stand or sit with, and/or describe appropriate singing posture • Perform echo, call and response, cumulative, and lyrical songs	
Unit 3: Responding-Movement	Students will be able to respond to music through: • Choreographed (taught) movement • Creative (improvised) movement Students will perform: • “Move Its” (choreographed stationary movement responding to classical music) • Guided movement to music in a variety of genres • Improvised/creative movement to music with specific guidelines • Folk dances from other cultures in a variety of formations (with partners, longways set, double circle)	Year long (September-June)
Unit 4: Dynamics	Students will be able to: • Define the following: dynamics, forte, piano, crescendo, decrescendo • Listen to music and recognize the dynamics and changes • Use appropriate musical symbols to indicate dynamics • Perform music using a variety of dynamics with purpose	2 months (September-October)
Unit 5: Melody and Pitch	Students will be able to: • Identify whether notes or a melody go higher, lower, or stay the same pitch • Echo melodic patterns on a neutral syllable • Echo melodic patterns containing Mi Re Do pitches using solfege syllables and playing on pitched instruments	5 months (January-June)